

# Recent Trends of Law & Regulation in Korea

Focusing on Business and Investment

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## Recent Trends of Law & Regulation in Korea

Focusing on Business and Investment

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*Recent Events of the Ministry of Justice*

**- Ministry of Justice Talks with Young Entrepreneurs on Legal Assistance for Startups**

*Interview*

**- The Power of Cooperation The Role of UNCITRAL RCAP in Current World**

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The Republic of Korea government has changed its official "government identity." The new logo conveys the dynamism and enthusiasm of the country with the three colors of blue, red and white. It echoes off Korea's national flag Taegeukgi with the taegeuk circular swirl and the blank canvas embodies in white. The typeface

was inspired by the font used in the "Hunminjeongeum" (1446), the original Hangeul text, in consideration of the harmony embodied in the taegeuk circle. Starting March 2016, the new logo is used at all 22 ministries including the Ministry of Justice and 51 central government agencies.

Emblem



Ministry of Justice



# COMMERCIAL BUILDING LEASE PROTECTION ACT

Act No. 18675, Jan 4, 2022



## Article 1 (Purpose)

The purpose of this Act is to guarantee the stability of the economic life of people by prescribing exceptions to the Civil Act concerning the lease of commercial buildings.

## Article 2 (Scope of Application)

(1) This Act shall apply to the lease (including cases where the main part of the leasehold property is used for business purposes) of commercial buildings (referring to buildings subject to business registration under Article 3 (1)): Provided, That in cases of lease the amount of security deposit for which exceeds that prescribed by Presidential Decree following deliberation by the Commercial Building Lease Committee established under Article 14-2, this shall not apply. <Amended on Jul. 31, 2020>

- (2) The amount of security deposit under the proviso of paragraph (1) shall be prescribed according to area-based classifications in consideration of the economic circumstances in the relevant areas, scale of the leasehold property, etc., and the amount obtained by multiplying the rental value by the rate prescribed by Presidential Decree in consideration of interest rates charged on loans, etc. of banks under the Banking Act shall be included therein where rent in addition to security deposit exists. <Amended on May 17, 2010>
- (3) Notwithstanding the proviso of paragraph (1), Article 3, Article 10 (1) and (2) and the main clause of paragraph (3), Articles 10-2 through 10-9 and Article 19 shall also apply to the lease exceeding the amount of security deposit pursuant to the proviso of paragraph (1). <Newly Inserted on Aug. 13, 2013; May 13, 2015; Sep. 29, 2020>



## Article 3 (Perfection)

- (1) A lease shall become effective against third parties on the day following the date on which a lessee files an application for the transfer of the relevant building and business registration under Article 8 of the Value-Added Tax Act, Article 168 of the Income Tax Act or Article 111 of the Corporate Tax Act even when no registration of the lease exists. <Amended on Jun. 7, 2013>
- (2) The transferee of a leased building (including the person who has succeeded to the right to lease) shall be deemed to have succeeded to the position of the lessor.
- (3) Where a building which is a leasehold property under this Act is subject to sale and purchase or auction, Article 575 (1) and (3), and Article 578 of the Civil Act shall apply mutatis mutandis.
- (4) Article 536 of the Civil Act shall apply mutatis mutandis to the cases of paragraph (3).

## Article 4 (Assigning Fixed Date and Providing Lease Information)

- (1) A fixed date prescribed in Article 5 (2) shall be assigned by the head of a tax office having jurisdiction over the location of a commercial building.
- (2) The head of the competent tax office shall prepare a fixed date register, in which the location of the relevant commercial building, the date when a fixed date is assigned, rents and deposits, etc. are written. In such cases, he or she may utilize the computerized data processing organization.
- (3) Any one who has an interest in the lease of a commercial building may request the head of the competent tax office to provide information, including the date when a fixed date is assigned to the relevant commercial building, rents and deposits. In such cases, no head of the competent tax office, in receipt of such request, is

allowed to refuse such request without justifiable grounds.

- (4) Any one who intends to conclude a lease contract may request the head of the competent tax office to provide information pursuant to paragraph (3) after obtaining consent from a lessor.
- (5) Matters to be included in the fixed date register, the scope of persons who have an interest in the lease of a commercial building, the scope of information which can be requested to the head of the competent tax office and matters necessary for assigning a fixed date and providing information, etc. shall be prescribed by Presidential Decree.

## Article 5 (Recovery of Security Deposit)

- (1) Where a lessee files an application for auction of a leasehold building on the grounds of a final and conclusive judgment on a lawsuit claiming the return of security deposit or execution title corresponding thereto, the performance of opposite obligation or offer of such performance shall not be prerequisites to commence execution, notwithstanding Article 41 of the Civil Execution Act.
- (2) A lessee equipped with prerequisites for counterclaim under Article 3 (1) who has obtained a certificate of a fixed date on the lease contract from the competent head of tax office has a right to be reimbursed security deposit in preference to posterior creditors or other creditors from the realized amount of leasehold building (including the site possessed by a lessor) at the time of auction under the Civil Execution Act or public auction under the National Tax Collection Act.
- (3) If a lessee fails to transfer a leasehold building to any transferee, he or she may not receive the security deposit under paragraph (2).
- (4) Interested parties who are dissatisfied with the order of preferential payment and security deposit under paragraphs (2) and (7) may raise an objection to an auction court or an agency issuing disposition on default. <Amended on Aug. 13, 2013>
- (5) Where an objection is filed to an auction court as prescribed in paragraph (4), the provisions of Articles 152 through 161 of the Civil Execution Act shall apply mutatis mutandis.
- (6) When interested parties have verified to have instituted a lawsuit against a lessee, a financial institution having succeeded the preferential payment right pursuant to paragraph (7), etc. within seven days from the date an objection was filed, the agency issuing a default disposition that has received such an objection as prescribed in paragraph (4) shall reserve the return of the security deposit to the lessee, a financial institution having succeeded the preferential payment right pursuant to paragraph (7), etc. within the extent any objections were raised until the lawsuit is concluded, and allocate the remaining amount. In such cases, such reserved security deposit shall be allocated according to the result of such lawsuit. <Amended on Aug. 13, 2013>
- (9) A financial institution, etc. shall not cancel the lease by performing on behalf of or subrogating the lessee to exercise the preferential payment right. <Newly Inserted on Aug. 13, 2013>



Article 6 (Order of Registration of Right to Lease)

- (1) In cases where security deposit has not been returned after the lease terminated, a lessee may file an application for an order of registration of the right to lease to a district court, branch court of district court, Si court or Gun court having jurisdiction over the address of a leasehold building. <Amended on Aug. 13, 2013>
- (2) When a lessee files an application for an order of registration of the right to lease, he or she shall include the following matters therein, and substantiate the grounds for filing an application and such fact being the cause for registration of the right to lease:
  - 1. Purport of filing an application and grounds therefor;
  - 2. Building which is the subject matter of lease (where the subject matter of lease is part of a building, drawings of such part shall be attached);
  - 3. Fact which has become the ground for registration of the right to lease (where a lessee has obtained the perfection under Article 3 (1) or right to preferential reimbursement under Article 5 (2), such fact);
  - 4. Other matters prescribed by Supreme Court Regulations.
- (3) Articles 280 (1), 281, 283, 285, 286 and 288 (1), main clause of Article 288 (2), Article 289, part concerning Article 288 (1) among Article 290 (2), and Articles 291 and 293 of the Civil Execution Act shall apply mutatis mutandis to the judgment on an application for order of registration of the right to lease, lessor's raising an objection on the determination of order of registration of the right to lease and trial thereof, application for cancellation of order of registration of the right to lease and trial thereof, or execution, etc. of order of registration of the right to lease. In such cases, "provisional seizure" shall be deemed "registration of the right to lease," "creditor" as "lessee," and "debtor" as "lessor."
- (4) A lessee may file a protest against a court ruling dismissing an application for order of registration of the right to lease.
- (5) When registration of the right to lease following the execution of order of registration of the right to lease is made, a lessee shall obtain the perfection under Article 3 (1) and right to preferential reimbursement under Article 5 (2): Provided, That in cases such lessee has already obtained the perfection or right to preferential reimbursement prior to the registration of the right to lease, no change shall be made to the perfection or right to preferential reimbursement, and such already obtained perfection or right to preferential reimbursement shall not be lost after the registration of the right to lease even if prerequisites for counterclaim under Article 3 (1) are lost.
- (6) A lessee who has leased a building (limited to part of a building where the subject matter of lease is part of a building) for which registration of the right to lease following the execution of order of registration of the right to lease was made shall have no right to preferential reimbursement under Article 14.
- (7) Matters necessary for the implementation of order of registration of the right to lease, such as commissioning of registration of the right to lease, recording of registration of the right to lease by registrars,

etc. shall be prescribed by Supreme Court Regulations.

- (8) A lessee may request a lessor for costs incurred with regard to filing for an application for order of registration of the right to lease under paragraph (1) and registration of the right to lease incidental thereto.
- (9) A financial institution, etc. may file an application for an order of registration of the right to lease under paragraph (1) by subrogating the lessee. In such cases, "lessee" under paragraph (3), (4) and (8) is deemed to be "financial institution, etc." <Newly Inserted on Aug. 13, 2013>

Article 7 (Validity of Registration of Right to Lease under Civil Act)

- (1) Article 6 (5) and (6) shall apply mutatis mutandis to the validity of registration of lease of buildings under Article 621 of the Civil Act.
- (2) Where a lessee holding a perfection or right to preferential reimbursement files an application for the registration of lease in cooperation with a lessor as prescribed in Article 621 (1) of the Civil Act, he or she shall state the following matters in addition to the matters prescribed in subparagraphs 1 through 6 of Article 74 of the Registration of Real Estate Act in the application form, and attach documents (where the subject matter of lease is part of a building, drawings of such part shall be included) verifying such facts: <Amended on Apr. 12, 2011; Feb. 4, 2020>
  - 1. Date when an application for business registration was filed;
  - 2. Date when such leasehold building was occupied;
  - 3. Date when a certificate of a fixed date was obtained on the lease contract.

Article 8 (Termination of Right to Lease by Auction)

Where an auction under the Civil Execution Act has been implemented on a leasehold building, the right to lease shall be terminated when such leasehold building is sold: Provided, That in cases of the right to lease with perfection for which security deposit has not been paid in full, this shall not apply.

Article 9 (Period of Lease)

- (1) A lease, the period of which has not been determined or period of which has been determined for not more than one year, such period shall be deemed one year: Provided, That a lessee may assert that such period determined for less than one year is valid.
- (2) Even after the lease is terminated, the relationship of lease is deemed to continue to exist until a lessee's security deposit is returned.

Article 10 (Request for Contract Renewal)

- (1) Where a lessee requests for renewal of a contract between six months and one month before the expiration of period of lease, a lessor shall not refuse it without justifiable grounds: Provided, That in cases falling under any of the following subparagraphs, this shall not apply: <Amended on Aug. 13, 2013>



- 1. Where such lessee has been in arrears with an amount equivalent to three period of rent;
  - 2. Where such lessee has entered lease by deceit or other fraudulent means;
  - 3. Where such lessor has provided such lessee with substantial compensation by mutual consent;
  - 4. Where such lessee has subleased all or part of the leased building without the consent of such lessor;
  - 5. Where such lessee has destroyed all or part of the building intentionally or by gross negligence;
  - 6. Where the purpose of lease is frustrated because all or part of a leasehold building has been severely damaged;
  - 7. Where such lessor needs to recover possession of the building in order to demolish or reconstruct all or part of the building for any of the following grounds:
    - (a) Where, at the time of entering into the lease contract, such lessor notifies such lessee of a plan for demolition or rebuilding specifically stating the time and period of construction, etc., and complies with the plan;
    - (b) Where there are safety hazards due to decrepitude, damage, partial destruction, etc. of the building;
    - (c) Where there has been demolition or rebuilding pursuant to other statutes or regulations;
  - 8. Where such lessee has substantially violated the responsibilities of lessee or grave reasons for which the continuation of lease is difficult exist.
- (2) Lessee's right to request renewal of the contract may be exercised

within the extent that the whole period of lease including the period of initial lease does not exceed 10 years. <Amended on Oct. 16, 2018>

- (3) A renewed lease shall be deemed to have been renewed under the same conditions as those of the former lease: Provided, That rent and security deposit may be increased or decreased within the extent under Article 11.
- (4) Where a lessor has failed to notify a lessee of a denial to renew or modify conditions within the period under paragraph (1), lease under the same conditions as those of previous lease shall be deemed to have been made when such period expires. In such cases, the period during which such lease continues to exist shall be deemed one year. <Amended on May 8, 2009>
- (5) A lessee may notify a lessor of the cancellation of contract at any time in cases of paragraph (4), and it shall become effective three months after the date such lessor is notified of such fact.

Article 11 (Right of Claim for Increase or Decrease of Rent)

- (1) Where rent or security deposit has become insufficient due to taxes, public imposts, other increase or decrease in the burden on such leasehold building or fluctuations in economic conditions caused by a Class 1 infectious disease, etc. defined in subparagraph 2 of Article 2 of the Infectious Disease Control and Prevention Act, interested parties may claim an increase or decrease in the future rent or security deposit. However, in cases of an increase, it shall not exceed the rate set according to the standards prescribed by Presidential Decree. <Amended on Sep. 29, 2020>

- (2) No claim for increase under paragraph (1) shall be made within one year after the lease contract or agreed increase in rent, etc. is made.
- (3) Where a lessor claims an increase in rent, etc. under paragraph (1) after the rent, etc. have been decreased due to fluctuations in economic conditions caused by a Class 1 infectious disease defined in subparagraph 2 of Article 2 of the Infectious Disease Control and Prevention Act, the proviso of paragraph (1) shall not apply until the increased rent, etc. amount to the rent, etc. that are not decreased.
- <Newly Inserted on Sep. 29, 2020>

Article 13 (Application to Sublease Relationship)

- (1) Articles 10, 10-2, 10-8, 10-9 (limited to parts regarding Articles 10 and 10-8), 11, and 12 shall apply to the sublease relationship between a sublessor and a sublessee. <Amended on May 13, 2015; Sep. 29, 2020>
- (2) A sublessee who has concluded a sublease contract with the approval of such lessor may exercise a right to request renewal of lease to such lessor on behalf of such lessee within a period during which the right to request renewal of contract can be exercised by the lessee.

Article 14 (Protection of Certain Amount of Security Deposit)

- (1) A lessee shall have a right to be reimbursed a certain amount of the security deposit in preference to other holders of a real right granted by way of security. In such cases, such lessee shall satisfy the conditions under Article 3 (1) before registering an application for the auction of a building.
- (2) The provisions of Article 5 (4) through (6) shall apply mutatis mutandis to cases under paragraph (1).
- (3) The extent and standards of lessees to be reimbursed preferentially and a certain amount of the security deposit reimbursed under paragraph (1) shall be prescribed by Presidential Decree following deliberation by the Commercial Building Lease Committee under Article 14-2, considering the economic conditions of relevant areas, security deposit, rent, etc. within the extent of 1/2 of the price of leasehold building (including the price of site possessed by a lessor).
- <Amended on Aug. 13, 2013; Jul. 31, 2020>

Article 15 (Mandatory Provisions)

Any agreement in violation of the provisions of this Act which is unfavorable to a lessee shall be null and void.

Article 16 (Lease for Temporary Use)

This Act shall not apply to any lease evident for temporary use.

Article 17 (Application to Unregistered Lease on Deposit Basis Mutatis Mutandis)

This Act shall apply mutatis mutandis to contracts of lease on a deposit basis of buildings unregistered. In such cases, "security deposit for

lease on a deposit basis" shall be deemed "security deposit of lease".

Article 18 (Application to Trial of Small Claims Act Mutatis Mutandis)

@Articles 6, 7, 10 and 11-2 of the Trial of Small Claims Act shall apply mutatis mutandis to a lawsuit claiming the return of security deposit, instituted by a lessee against a lessor.

<Provided by Ministry of Government Legislation>

Excluded Articles

- Article 5 (Recovery of Security Deposit) Paragraph 7, 8
- Article 10-2 (Special Cases Renewal of Contract)
- Article 10-3 (Definitions of Premiums)
- Article 10-4 (Protection of Opportunity of Collecting Premiums)
- Article 10-5 (Exemption from Application of Premiums)
- Article 10-4 shall not apply to any of the following commercial building leases: <Amended on Oct. 16, 2018>
- Article 10-6 (Preparation of Written Standard Premium Contracts)
- Article 10-7 (Public Notice of Standards for Appraising Premiums)
- Article 10-8 (Overdue Rents and Termination)
- Article 10-9 (Temporary Special Cases concerning Requests for Renewal of Contracts)
- Article 12 (Restriction on Calculation Rate When Converting into Monthly Rent)
- Article 14-2 (Commercial Building Lease Committee)
- Article 19 (Preparation of Written Standard Contracts)
- Article 20 (Commercial Building Dispute Conciliation Committees)
- Article 21 (Application Mutatis Mutandis of Housing Lease Dispute Conciliation Committees)
- Article 22 (Legal Fiction as Public Officials in Application of Penalty Provisions)



# The Power of Cooperation

## The Role of UNCITRAL RCAP in Current World

**Mung-Fan Tsoi**

A Legal Expert at UNCITRAL: Regional Centre for Asia and the Pacific

The United Nations Commission on International Trade Law (UNCITRAL) was founded by the United Nations (UN) General Assembly in 1966. The goal of UNCITRAL is to promote the progressive harmonization and unification of the law of international trade by providing legal frameworks for the resolution of international commercial disputes and preparing and promoting the use and adoption of treaties, model laws, and legislative guides in several key areas of commercial law. In 2012, the Ministry of Justice and Incheon City have jointly initiated the establishment of the Commission's Regional Centre for Asia and the Pacific (UNCITRAL RCAP) to further promote international trade in the Asia-Pacific region. Mung-Fan (Moonar) Tsoi is a legal professional in the field of technology and intellectual property law and is currently serving as a legal expert of UNCITRAL RCAP by coordinating and providing technical assistance and capacity building to Asia Pacific countries adopting UNCITRAL texts as well as drafting the annual report and the Asia Pacific day report.

**Q:** *It has been ten years since the establishment of UNCITRAL RCAP in Korea. How would you evaluate Korea's role in promoting UNCITRAL's objectives?*

As a legal expert at UNCITRAL RCAP seconded from Hong Kong Department of Justice since December 2021, I'm happy to have a counterpart legal expert sent from the Ministry of Justice and the support from the Incheon Metropolitan City to the RCAP office.

I'm cooperating pleasantly with the Korean legal experts thus far in achieving UNCITRAL's objectives. With contributions from Hong Kong and the Republic of Korea, we have held many events in the past ten years. For example, in 2020, we held over 65 events reaching over 9,500 participants from 53 jurisdictions. In the last year, 2021, we had over 73 events reaching over 120,000 participants from 72 jurisdictions, more than the number of jurisdictions we covered in the Asia Pacific region. Those capacity-building and technical assistance definitely helped promote UNCITRAL's objectives.

In achieving our objectives, there has been strong support not only from the three parties I mentioned earlier, namely the Ministry of Justice, Republic of Korea, Incheon Metropolitan City, and the Hong Kong SAR government, which I seconded from but also from our co-organizers, including KCAB INTERNATIONAL, Seoul IDRC, quite a few Korean universities and many others from other jurisdictions like HKIAC, etc. And our interns, including our Korean-speaking interns and those from all global corners. They all played an essential part in achieving our objectives.



**Q:** *UNCITRAL has a total of six working groups. Among those six sessions, if you chose one that UNCITRAL RCAP is paying particular attention to, which Working Group would it be?*

The short answer would be all of them! The longer answer can be more detailed. RCAP's mandate is not confined to focusing on a particular working group. We should provide technical assistance and capacity building on commercial law reform in the region and disseminate UNCITRAL standards to promote legal harmonization and certainty in international commercial transactions in the Asia-Pacific region. RCAP's work thus covers all UNCITRAL texts and developments.

To raise awareness and ensure comprehensive coverage and dissemination, we might have different focused topics for different periods. For example, for 2021's AP Day series, our focus was on micro, small, and medium-sized enterprises (MSMEs), which is Working Group I's purview.

Also, I am paying attention to Working Group II's work, especially on ODR, since HKDOJ has established a Project Office for Collaboration with UNCITRAL to track recent developments in online dispute resolution and identify possible future works in the relevant area. Hong Kong is developing itself into the center for international legal and dispute resolution services in the Asia-Pacific region. The collaboration would help Hong Kong and the region facilitate various dispute resolutions like online arbitration, bringing convenience and improving access to justice.

This year is also the 25th year for our MLCBI (Model Law on Cross-Border Insolvency), which concerns Working Group V's work. Therefore, we might focus on WGV's work at some point this year. Last but not least, concerning Working Group VI, there will likely be a signing ceremony later concerning the draft convention on the recognition of foreign judicial sales of ships, also known as the Beijing Convention, once adopted. Therefore, we expect there will be work related to such soon.

That said, the jurisdictions we covered in the Asia Pacific region have different needs at different periods - some want to adopt our arbitration model law, some need reforms on their e-commerce law, and some for other instruments. We will thus strive to assist by providing technical assistance in collaboration with expert colleagues in Vienna HQ and function as a channel of communication between jurisdictions in the AP region and Vienna HQ in this regard.

**Q:** *The global economy is facing lots of uncertainty as many experts advise preparing for the recession, and some even mention the possible stagflation. At the same time, nationalism and deglobalization are rising in some developed countries. How would these current issues affect UNCITRAL RCAP? As the Legal Expert of UNCITRAL RCAP, what do you think is the essential assistance that Asia Pacific Countries need within the present circumstance?*

In my personal view, there is always uncertainty in the global economy. During times of recession, it reinstates the importance of us all building a community with a shared future. No country can solve the global economy's uncertainty, recession, etc. We all need help from the international community. We cannot afford a zero-sum game, fighting against each other. Instead, we need to work in unity and overcome difficulties together. The core of building a community with a shared future for humankind is, economically, working together in promoting trade and facilitating investment, bringing the global economy to a better future with openness, inclusiveness, balance, and win-win.

UNCITRAL texts are playing a crucial role in promoting trade and bringing openness and inclusiveness to the global economy. For example, UNCITRAL texts in security interests assist jurisdictions in developing modern secured transactions laws, creating a security right in a movable asset, or even intangible assets like intellectual property rights, to promote the availability of secured credit. It helps increase the liquidity of the assets to the relatively small businesses that are the most vulnerable when facing a recession. As a Legal Expert of UNCITRAL RCAP, one of my most important tasks is to spread this idea -- the harmonization of trade law -- so that all stakeholders in the region -- and beyond -- could reap the benefits.

**Q:** *The international effort seems essential for promoting harmonization and unification of international trade law. What were some difficulties you experienced while working on cooperation processes between Asia Pacific countries?*

The cooperation processes I encountered in the past six months since I joined RCAP have been quite smooth thus far. If I have to nitpick, it could be the language barrier. When I looked at the legislation adopting the UNCITRAL text in some countries, the law was only



available in a language I do not know. However, we have other colleagues and interns to help with the translation. Hence, although it was difficult, it was not unmanageable.

Besides, States are generally receptive to our UNCITRAL text and open to our suggestions/queries during the technical assistance sessions. I'm glad to see us, the Asia Pacific countries, creating a better environment for international trade and building a better future.

**Q:** *As you have been working for the 'Public Order Event and Cybercrimes Team,' it says you have proposed and developed a know-how system to increase consistency in giving legal advice. The work seems closely aligned with UNCITRAL RCAP's goal of unifying international trade norms. How has your experience in the Cybercrimes Team helped your work at UNCITRAL?*

My work experience has indeed helped my work at UNCITRAL. Consistency of the case law is a prerequisite to legal certainty, subject to the unique features that might distinguish individual cases from the case law. And legal certainty is one of the essential elements of the rule of law. The know-how system I proposed and developed was inspired by such an idea. It is similar to our work in UNCITRAL, providing legal certainty and predictability via harmonization and unification of international trade law. My experience helped me understand the rationale of our work in UNCITRAL, its importance, and the tools we use to achieve our objectives -- from a wide range of conventions and model laws to the CLOUT database where you can find the case law on UNCITRAL texts.

**Q:** *From our knowledge, you have studied in Hong Kong, the United States, and the United Kingdom and now working in Korea. Can you tell us the cultural differences between those nations and how these experiences are helping you work in the field of international law?*

Although the school cultures might differ from the working cultures, the most significant takeaway I have from living in foreign countries is experiencing the different communication styles.

Some cultures prefer succinct conversation, and some prefer more casual dialogues. Some are more straightforward, and some are more cautious in conveying the message.

Once I got used to the different styles, the message I understood or conveyed was much more effective and reduced much misunderstanding.

It is conducive to working in international law since our colleagues and counterparts are often from diverse cultural backgrounds. My experience helped me a lot in effective communication.

**Q:** *There are various fields in law, and you have chosen international law. Can you tell us the reason why you have chosen to walk down this career path?*

Honestly, I haven't decided to walk down this career path yet. I also need to consult my supervisors in DOJ about my future career path. Concerning why I chose to come to UNCITRAL RCAP to work on international trade law, that's because, amongst my experience, I have participated in the Willem C. Vis International Commercial Arbitration Moot during my Juris Doctor degree. That was the first time I heard

about UNCITRAL, read our Arbitration model law and the CISG, and learned the importance of UNCITRAL's text in making international trade possible. Last year, I saw the Secondment opportunities at UNCITRAL RCAP, and I understood the importance of UNCITRAL's work from my Vis experience. So I knew it would be an excellent opportunity to steepen my learning curve and broaden my horizons. I then applied for the Secondment program and came here.

**Q:** *Starting from the Business Administration and Law School, all the way to Fashion Design, it seems that you have undergone various experiences in distinct fields. What fascinated you to specialize in the area of International Trade law as an attorney among your diversified backgrounds?*

There is a saying that you can't connect the dots looking forward. So, I tried to experience as much as possible in areas I have interests in when I've got the time in my early life. I chose the BBA-JD program at the Chinese University of Hong Kong when I graduated from secondary school because I see the legal system being the cornerstone of a developed community and a symbol of civilization. The laws safeguard the trust amongst humankind so everyone can live safely and happily. And I wish I could be part of the system, creating a better future for my community. That's why I picked law as one of my double degrees.

Apart from my Juris Doctor degree, my other degree is in business administration, which helped with my presentation and interpersonal skills so that I could easily convey my thoughts to others.

Regarding the fashion design summer course I took, that was after I finished my training contract and before I started with my new post in DOJ. I believe it has built on my creativity, which probably helped with my problem-solving skills and thinking outside the box. All these diverse experiences made me a better international trade law lawyer. As for why I'm fascinated to come to UNCITRAL RCAP working in the field of international trade law, as mentioned earlier, I was in the Vis moot team, and I know the importance of UNCITRAL's work. Hence I grabbed the secondment opportunity and came here.

**Q:** *What kind of advice would you give prospective lawyers who want to become legal professionals in international organizations?*

In my view, attending school lectures, workshops, seminars, roundtables, etc., in different areas of public and private international law to help familiarize oneself with different schools of thought and key conceptual issues and debates can be helpful. It builds the foundation for legal knowledge in the areas. UNCITRAL RCAP organizes and co-organizes those events on different international trade law topics from time to time. We are going to have the 2022 Asia Pacific Day events upcoming in due course as well. Prospective lawyers who want to become legal professionals in international



organizations should follow us on Facebook/ LinkedIn and subscribe to our mail list to receive those event details. Plus, our events are usually for free.

Apart from building the foundation of the legal concepts, I believe being alert to the news worldwide, especially trade-related news, is helpful to get an idea of the legal landscape. Examples of relevant news include countries adopting international commercial instruments, cases concerning the international commercial instruments, countries' economic situations, national policy on international trade, etc.

Thirdly, relevant work experience could turn your knowledge and skill into practice. For example, UNCITRAL RCAP offers internships, which on the one hand, assist the officers in preparing substantive documents concerning the operation of RCAP and, on the other hand, provide practical training to the interns. The interns will work under the direct supervision of the regional center's professional staff, including myself. The internship is currently open for application until July 6th. You could refer to the details on our website, LinkedIn, and Facebook.

And if the interview is released after the application deadline on July 6th, another opening will still be at the end of this year, around December or January next year. You can follow UNCITRAL on LinkedIn or Facebook to get updates.

**Q:** *Could you tell us the plans and prospects for UNCITRAL RCAP?*

RCAP is having its 10th anniversary this year, and we plan to have a celebration event. We welcome partners to co-organize events for such in the region. Concerning the theme, we are looking to further legal harmonization in the Asia Pacific region in the next ten years. The interested potential co-organizers could discuss details further with the interested potential co-organizers.

We also have the new series of AP Day events soon in the 4th quarter this year. We welcome the partners to co-organize the events too. For universities and institutions who are interested in co-organizing those events, they can contact us to explore collaboration opportunities.



# Recent Events of the Ministry of Justice

## Ministry of Justice Talks with Young Entrepreneurs on Legal Assistance for Startups

MOJ-Chonnam National University held a policy meeting



- On April 15, the Ministry of Justice held 「Conversation with Young Entrepreneurs on Legal Assistance for Startups」 in Startup Support Center G&R HUB at Chonnam National University (President Jung Sung-taek).
  - The event was attended by Deputy Minister of Justice Lee Sang-kap, Vice President of Chonnam National University Kim Eun Il, Head of CNU Research and Business Development Foundation Min Jeong Jun, and 20 representatives of Chonnam National University's Startup Club.
- The Ministry of Justice has been promoting various legal projects to support young entrepreneurs. To that end, the MOJ has brought opportunities to startup centers at colleges across the country to discuss and share challenges and difficulties in the field.
  - ※ "Conversation with Young Entrepreneurs on Legal Assistance for Startups" at Hannam University (Daejeon) on August 23, 2021.
  - ※ "Conversation with Young Entrepreneurs on Legal Assistance for Startups" at Kangwon University (Chuncheon) on January 6, 2022.
  - In particular, the meeting was held to discuss institutional measures to secure the foundation of the nation's continuous development and the growth of youth amid the 4th Industrial Revolution and the COVID-19 pandemic. Also, "Start Law," a platform for legal affairs to support startups developed by the MOJ in February this year, was introduced at this event.
  - ※ Ministry of Justice Startup Foundation Support Legal Affairs Platform "Start Law" (Website: [www.9988law.com/startlaw](http://www.9988law.com/startlaw))



- The Minister has said in his video message,
  - "The Ministry of Justice has helped startups suffering from legal disputes through activities of the MOJ Legal Support Group and established Start Law, a platform to provide startups with legal support to offer practical help to young people and those in trouble caused by COVID-19."
  - And the Minister added, "By providing various legal materials and information for startups on Start Law, anyone can easily access useful information. Also, the Ministry will provide one-stop legal service for startups so that entrepreneurs can communicate with experts in different fields and share information."
- In the following event, participants were provided with detailed information on Start Law. And various discussions were held on the establishment of platform companies and startups.
  - "Start Law," created by the Ministry of Justice, aims to help young people prepare to start their businesses from a legal perspective. The core of the platform is ① "Small-sized Startup" and "Venture Startup" sections that provide information on funds, technologies, and organizations needed to start businesses, ② "Legal Affairs Edu" section that delivers legal knowledge required to run businesses through education, and ③ "Legal Support Group" section that offers legal services of the 9988 SMEs Legal Support Group, the Legal Support Group at Creative Economy Innovation Center, and the Legal Support Group for Overseas SMEs.
  - Participants of the meeting expressed a keen interest in "Start Law" and shared their challenges in starting a business. In addition, they requested videos on tax and accounting and additional features, such as information on social enterprises and cooperatives.
  - Deputy Minister Lee sympathized with their difficulties, saying,

"While young people from the previous generation mostly hoped to be employed, in the future, entrepreneurs will lead and revitalize our economy." He also gave detailed information on Start Law and the legal support group of the Ministry. In addition, he promised to help startups by listening to the opinions of entrepreneurs and improving existing measures and policies.

- As such, young entrepreneurs expected that "Start Law" would be a long-term solution to the legal problems of startups. Also, they hoped that various legal services linked to the platform would constantly supplement the legal information needed for each field and its foundation.
- The Ministry of Justice will be committed to supporting the growth of startups by getting on-site opinions so that startups can serve as a new pillar of our economy and grow even further.

## The 59th 「Law Day」 Ceremony

Justice Empathized by the People, Justice of Coexistence with the Rule of Law

### Summary of Ceremony

- The Ministry of Justice and the Korean Bar Association (President Lee Jong-yeop) held the 59th Law Day ceremony at 10:00 on April 25th (Mon.) at the auditorium located at the Government Complex Seoul's annex, attended by approximately 200 people, including the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court Kim Myeong-soo, Chairperson of the National Assembly of the Republic of Korea Legislation & Judiciary Committee Park Kwang-on, Secretary-General from the Constitutional Court Park Jong-mun, and Deputy Minister of the Ministry of Justice Kang Seong-guk as well as the awardees and their families.
- Law Day is a national anniversary established in 1964 to reflect on the dignity of the law and strengthen the rule of law. Since 1968, the Ministry of Justice and the Korean Bar Association have jointly hosted the ceremony. But due to the spread of the COVID-19, the 57th and 58th ceremonies were replaced by 「Government Award ceremony」.



- After three years, the official ceremony returned with various event, including the reward of merits under the theme of 「Justice Empathized by the People, Justice of Coexistence with the Rule of Law」.
- At the ceremony, the Minister emphasized in his speech that the law is a commitment of members of the society and the foundation for justice. The Minister also pledged to respond to many issues threatening justice and the rule of law for justice of coexistence empathized by the people and legal administration for the people.
- The President of the Korean Bar Association stated that the rule of law is the basic principle to establish a fair and just society and emphasized that everyone's effort is necessary to create a fair and just society.
- Following that, the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court, Minister of Justice, Secretary-General from the Constitutional Court, and President of the Korean Bar Association joined a celebration performance to show their commitment to solidifying the rule of law.

### Government Awards for People of Merits on Law Day

- At the ceremony, Merit(7), Civil Merit Medal(1), President's Commendation(3), and Prime Minister's Commendation(1) were given out to 12 people who have contributed to the protection of human rights and social justice.
  - The honor of winning the Order of Civil Merit Mugunghwa Medal went to Lawyer Huh No-mok who has contributed to protecting human rights of the socially weak in the field, such as community welfare centers, Legal Aid Center, and others, and to tackling inter-Korean issues as a vice chairman and member for the National Unification Advisory Council.
  - The Order of Service Merit Yellow Stripes was awarded to Chief Prosecutor of the Daegu District Prosecutor's Office Kim Hu-gon who has contributed in promoting the prosecution to play an active role in the criminal justice system. He also effectively organized public tasks of the prosecution, including confiscation of the proceeds of crime, sentence execution, and protection of victims, while being in charge of investigation of corruption, major criminal cases, and trials.
  - The winners of the Order of Service Merit Red Stripes were Deputy Prosecutor General of the Jeonju District Prosecutor's Office Kim



Hyung-soo who has contributed to establishing the legal order for ordinary people, women, and children by forming pan-governmental comprehensive measures for violent crimes against women; Professor Kim Do Kyun at Seoul National University Law School who has contributed to enhancing justice and the rule of law in Korea’s society through insightful discourse on the philosophy of law; and Professor Kim Hyo-shin at Kyungbook National University Law School who has made a contribution in developing legal culture related to business through research on commercial law.

**Origin of the Law Day**  
1964: 「Law Day」 was instituted (May 1st) based on the Presidential Decree No. 1796.  
- In 1958, the United States first declared May 1<sup>st</sup> to be 「Law Day」.  
- In July 1963, The World Jurist Association’s 1st Biennial Congress (Athens) resolved to recommend other countries to institute 「Law Day」.  
- On February 20, 1964, the Korean Bar Association proposed the institution of 「Law Day」 to the National Assembly.  
2003 : The date of 「Law Day」 was changed into April 25<sup>th</sup>  
- The date of 「Law Day」 was changed to April 25<sup>th</sup> by revising the Presidential Decree (rules on all kinds of anniversaries,) on February 4<sup>th</sup>, 2003, given the fact that 「the Court Organization Law」, considered as the first modern law in Korea, was enforced on April 25, 1895.  
※The Ministry of Justice and the Korean Bar Association have co-hosted the 「Law Day」 ceremony since 1968.

## Inaugural Address by Minister of Justice

Greetings to the members of the Ministry of Justice.  
I express my deepest gratitude for your hard work in this challenging time.  
I am pleased to serve as the first Minister of Justice of the new government with 34,300 colleagues of the MOJ.  
As our citizens are now struggling with many issues, including soaring real estate prices, inflation, and COVID-19, I feel great responsibility for administration based on the rule of law that can comfort and encourage our citizens.

The Ministry of Justice is one of the two ministries whose names have never changed since our country was found. (the other is the Ministry of National Defense).  
I have long believed that this fact has always shown us how clear and straightforward the duty and goal of the Ministry are.  
As you can guess from its name, the MOJ exists for the sake of justice. We at the MOJ must remember that the Ministry must seek the path for justice under the national system.  
As the person in charge of legal administration, I will be committed to

protecting the freedom of our citizens and human rights and solidifying justice and the rule of law.  
In this process, I will serve as a pillar that supports various opinions and beliefs of the members of the MOJ.

My fellow members of the MOJ,  
I would like to present the “Rule of Law Based on Justice and Common Sense” as a new direction that the MOJ must follow.  
First, let us implement a heartwarming legal administration to protect the rights of our citizens.  
Human Rights are the supreme value of the constitution that ensures justice and dignity for all human beings, including the socially marginalized and minorities.  
Hence, there is no room for compromise or dissent on our duty to ensure human rights.  
The Ministry of Justice must become a fence protecting our citizens, especially the socially weak.  
If the law is not properly enforced, society will fall into chaos, causing uneven damage to the underprivileged.  
To protect them, we need to strengthen legal support programs and create a comprehensive support system to heal victims of crime.  
Let us strive to improve legislation to stabilize the livelihood and carefully listen to every voice of our people to respect the value of human rights.  
Second, let us bring the future prosperity of our country with advanced administration based on the rule of law.  
Complex international and economic situations now surround Korea. Under these circumstances, the country should be poised for the post-COVID era and the 4th Industrial Revolution.

In the face of fierce global competition, the MOJ needs to prop up our country’s future prosperity with administration based on the rule of law that meets the global standard.  
We should exert our utmost efforts for our people to enjoy world-class legal services in all areas, including crime prevention, immigration policies, correction, human rights, legal affairs, and prosecution.  
Do not forget that we are paid by tax coming from the blood and sweat of our citizens. We must requite our people by providing the finest services.  
We should lay the foundation for the growth of our national competitiveness by meticulously researching and reviewing legal administration and the criminal justice system.  
Let us build a framework to implement quality immigration policies while reviewing a plan to set up the Immigration Agency.  
Let us actively address the lack of both human and material resources in the correctional service that we have paid less attention to before.  
Furthermore, we need to put our heads together to figure out what we can do to make Korea the leader in the international society.  
Third, let us create a fair and neutral prosecution.  
True reform of the prosecution and criminal justice system that our citizens’ desire is establishing a fair system where the socially powerful are also subject to strict investigations.  
Some countries can achieve this, but others can’t (in fact, the majority are

the latter). I believe Korea should be the one to accomplish this.  
Our people are great enough to enjoy a fair system, as proved by the fact that Koreans accomplished both democracy and industrialization in a short period.  
Let us do our best to minimize the vacuum in responding serious crimes and reestablishing the criminal justice system.  
Let us endeavor to boost the prosecution’s political neutrality and fairness while setting up a balanced system between competent prosecutors and police.  
The prosecution in Korea must protect citizens from crimes. The one who fears competent prosecutors should only be a criminal.  
To be sure, respecting human rights and procedures is the most fundamental step. We should do our job for the people.  
Fourth, let us help our citizens to keep the order of liberal democracy and market economy and enjoy safe and peaceful lives.  
Liberal democracy and a market economy are the foundation of our nation the constitution vowed to the people.  
Unhindered competition should be encouraged as the driving force of our social development. However, those who do not want to participate in or lag behind the competition should enjoy their happy lives.  
No matter their direction, they should be equally respected and live in harmony. The MOJ must support that harmony under the judicial system.  
In addition, creating a society where citizens live without worrying about their safety is the most basic duty of a country.  
We should not allow a society where people feel fear when walking late at night, a society where gangsters are swaggering, or a society where people cannot help but put up with their damages and pains. The MOJ must mobilize all resources to prevent this from happening.  
Above all, we should immediately investigate and address financial crimes that make our people suffer.  
To do so, I will start my first day as the Minister of Justice by reinstating the “Financial and Securities Crime Joint Investigation Team.”  
Lawbreakers who harm people’s lives will be held accountable for their crimes. By doing so, market participants will trust again that rules are observed.  
Let us review existing policies for crime prevention to ensure the safety of our people and operate the electronic monitoring system at world-class level.  
Please remember that administrators and prosecutors are public officials who fight against crimes according to the law.  
There are numerous tasks we need to tackle.

My fellow members of the Ministry of Justice,  
I once again pledge to put my every effort into implementing legal administration based on justice and common sense that can give help and comfort to our citizens.  
I would like to ask all of you to join this effort.  
I will respect every opinion of my fellow members who have worked hard in the field.  
In addition, I will protect public officials who have performed their job

correctly with their conviction from external pressure.  
That is actually what every one of you have already done for me.  
Now, let us join forces for our citizens.  
I wish you and your family happiness and health.  
Thank you.

2022. 05. 17  
Minister of Justice  
Han Dong Hoon



**Minister Han Dong Hoon**  
  
Education  
Hyundai Senior High School, Seoul  
LL.B., College of Law, Seoul National University  
LL.M., Columbia Law School, U.S.  
Admitted to Bar, New York State, U.S.

**May 2022~Present** Minister, Ministry of Justice  
**June 2021~May 2022** Vice President, Judicial Research and Training Institute  
**June 2020** Research Fellow, Institute of Justice  
**Jan. 2020** Deputy Chief Prosecutor, Busan High Prosecutors’ Office  
**July 2019** Director General, Anti-Corruption and Organized Crimes Department, Supreme Prosecutors’ Office  
**Aug. 2017** 3rd Deputy Chief Prosecutor, Seoul Central District Prosecutors’ Office  
**2016** Head of Team 2, Special Investigations Unit for Corruption Crimes  
**2015** Director, Fair Trade and Tax Audit Department, Seoul Central District Prosecutors’ Office  
**2013~2014** Director, Policy and Planning Department, Supreme Prosecutors’ Office  
**2011~2012** Prosecutor, Prosecution Service Division, Ministry of Justice  
**2009~2010** Senior Administrative Officer, Office of the Senior Secretary for Civil Affairs, Office of the President  
**2009** Prosecutor, Commercial Legal Affairs Division, Ministry of Justice  
**2007~2008** Prosecutor, Busan District Prosecutors’ Office  
**2006** Prosecution Research Officer, Central Investigation Department, Supreme Prosecutors’ Office  
**2005** LL.M., Columbia Law School (U.S.)  
**2003~2004** Prosecution Research Officer, Central Investigation Department, Supreme Prosecutors’ Office  
**2003** Prosecutor, Cheonan Branch of Daejeon District Prosecutors’ Office  
**2001~2003** Prosecutor, Seoul District Prosecutors’ Office  
**1998~2001** Judge Advocate of Air Force (Gangneung)  
**1998** Completed Course at Judicial Research and Training Institute (27th class)  
**1995** Passed the 37th National Bar Examination

## Inaugural Address by Vice Minister

Greetings to my fellow members of the Ministry of Justice.  
I am genuinely delighted to meet you again here in the Ministry of Justice where I had worked with enthusiasm before my retirement.  
On the other hand, I feel a heavy responsibility for my duty as the Vice Minister of Justice in this challenging time.  
Despite many difficulties, I would like to express my sincere gratitude for your dedication and hard work.

My fellow members of the MOJ!  
Thanks to the dedication of you and many others, our legal administration have consistently improved and developed.  
However, the demand for quality legal administrative services that meet the expectation of our citizens and national status continues to grow.  
To that end, greater devotion and efforts are necessary.  
Since the new Minister has not yet taken office, I do not think it is appropriate to talk about our shared goal of legal administration in detail.  
However, I would like to ask you to do your best in your position to fulfill our duties – the “Protection of our People’s Rights” and the “Establishment of Law and Order” - while focusing on our citizens.  
Every step of your work and results can become either a foundation for trust or a seed for mistrust of the Ministry.  
I hope you always keep this in mind and carry out your work meticulously.

My fellow members of the MOJ!  
By assisting the Minister, I will spare no effort to realize true legal administration based on fairness and common sense.  
Also, I will strive to create a vibrant and healthy working environment.  
A prominent expert in leadership, Ken Blanchard, once said, “None of us is as smart as all of us.”  
We must put our heads together, respect others’ opinions, and unite rather than agonizing alone.  
Then, we can solve any problem. I will also do the same by asking and learning from you.  
We should respect each other and understand each other’s difficulty regardless of rank so that we can become family members of the Ministry of Justice who actively communicate with each other.  
Again, I would like to say that it is my honor to work with all of you.  
I wish you and your family happiness and health.  
Thank you.

2022. 05. 13.  
Vice Minister  
Lee Noh Kong



***Vice Minister Lee Noh Kong***

Education  
Youngnak High School  
LL.B., College of Law, Yonsei University  
M.A., Graduate School of Law,  
Yonsei University

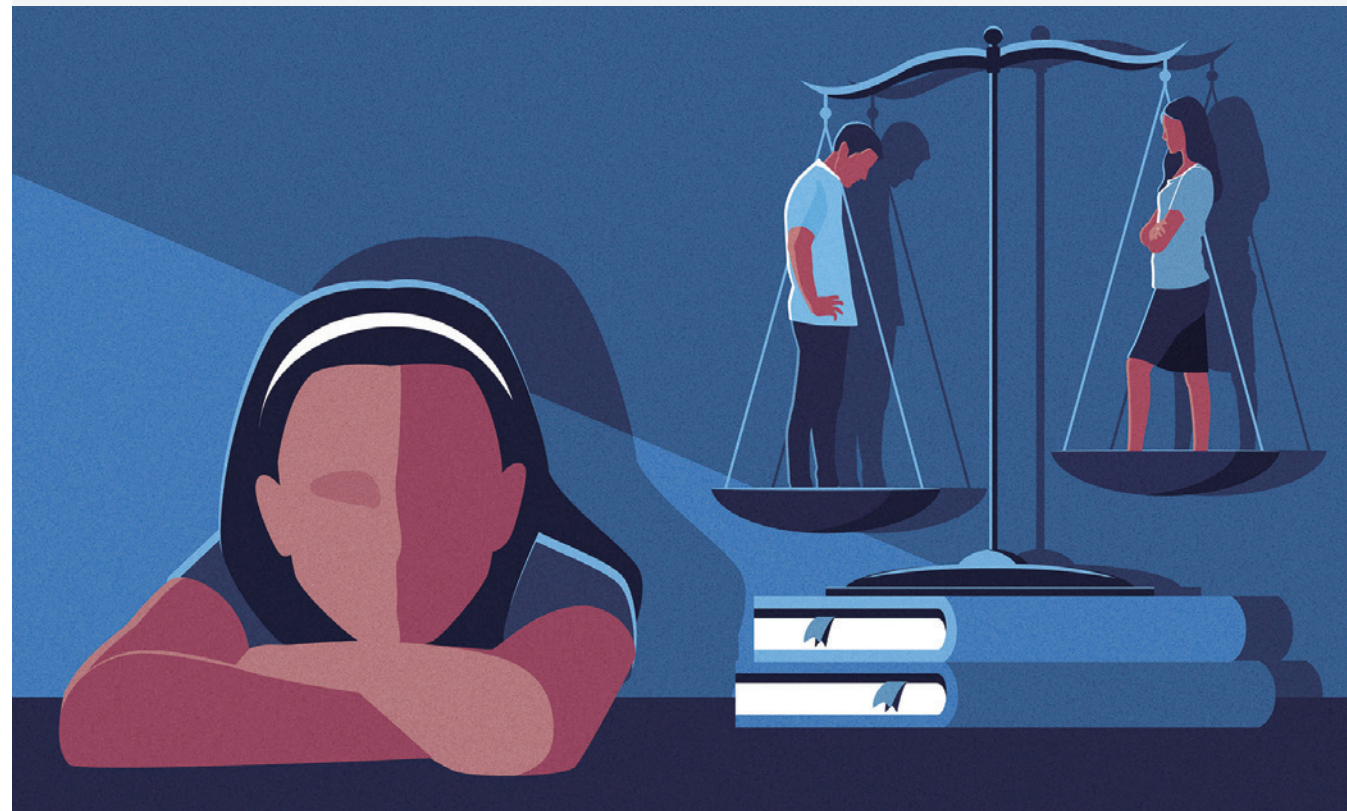
- May 13, 2022~Present** Vice Minister, Ministry of Justice  
**Mar. 2020** SHIN & KIM LLC.  
**Aug. 2019** Chief Prosecutor, Seongnam Branch of Suwon District Prosecutors’ Office  
**July 2018** 4th Deputy Chief Prosecutor, Seoul Central District Prosecutors’ Office  
**Aug. 2017** Deputy Chief Prosecutor, Bucheon Branch of Incheon District Prosecutors’ Office  
**Jan. 2016** Director, Human Rights Policy Division, Ministry of Justice  
**Feb. 2015** Director, Criminal Department 3, Seoul Southern District Prosecutors’ Office  
**Jan. 2014** Chief Prosecutor, Yeongdong Branch of Cheongju District Prosecutors’ Office  
**Apr. 2013** Director, Criminal Trial Department 3, Seoul Central District Prosecutors’ Office  
**July 2012** Director, Criminal Affairs Division II , Supreme Prosecutors’ Office  
**Sep. 2011** Director, Criminal Trial and Civil Litigation Department, Suwon District Prosecutors’ Office  
**2009** Professor, Judicial Research and Training Institute  
**2007** Prosecutor, Seoul Southern District Prosecutors’ Office  
**2005** Prosecutor, Cheonan Branch of Daejeon District Prosecutors’ Office  
**2003** Prosecutor, Office of Legal Counsel, Ministry of Justice  
**2001** Prosecutor, Incheon District Prosecutors’ Office  
**1999** Prosecutor, Seoul Western District Prosecutors’ Office  
**1997** Prosecutor, Seongnam Branch of Suwon District Prosecutors’ Office  
**1994** Passed the 36th National Bar Examination (26th class of Judicial Research and Training Institute)



# Policies of the Ministry of Justice

## MOJ Plans to Revise Family Litigation Act

Expecting minor children to reflect their voices more proactively in family litigation procedures



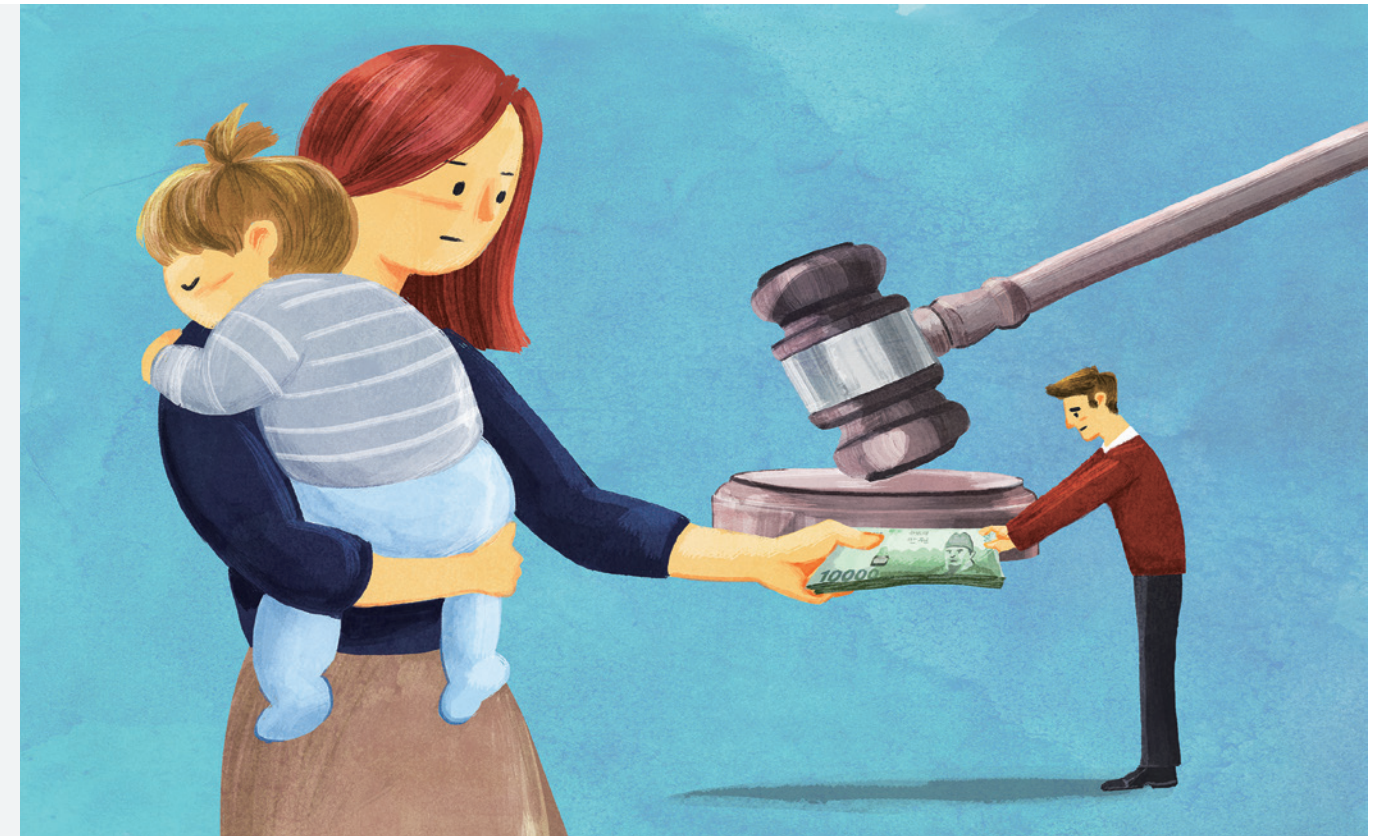
### Background and primary direction of the amendment

- There is growing social awareness that the rights and welfare of minor children should be protected more actively. Thus, the need to promote the rights and procedures for minor children in family litigation is also increasing.
  - As it has been 30 years since the enactment and implementation of the Family Litigation Act in 1991, some provisions have been seen as outdated and caused inconvenience.
- Accordingly, the Ministry of Justice and the National Court Administration came up with an amendment to the Family Litigation Act after discussions. The Ministry of Justice pre-announced the revised bill (May 3, 2022).
  - The basic direction of the revision is to change the focus of family litigation procedures from parents to "children."

- The procedural rights of minor children in family litigation have been newly established, and the measures to enforce payment of child support have been strengthened so that minor children can receive sufficient protection.
- The family litigation system and procedures have been improved to enhance the completeness of the family litigation law.

### Main content

- First, the procedural rights of minor children in family litigation have been strengthened.
  - The litigation capacity and non-contentious capacity of minors in family litigation procedures have been expanded. For example, if parents abuse parental authority and hamper the well-being of their children, minor children can directly file a claim for termination of parental rights (Articles 28 and 50).



- Currently, for minor children to claim loss of parental authority against their parents, a special agent must be appointed. In practice, relatives closed to abusive parents are inappropriate to serve as a special agent, and other relatives are reluctant to take the role.
  - When the Family Court decides to designate a person with parental authority or custody, regardless of the child's age, it is mandatory to hear the opinions of minor children so that their voices can be accurately reflected (Article 20).
- Currently, the Family Court only hears statements from minors over 13.
  - A procedural assistant system for minor children has been introduced so as not to harm children's rights in the trial process (Article 16).
- A lawyer or expert in psychology, education, counseling, pedology, medicine, and other relevant fields can be appointed as a procedure assistant
- Second, the means to enforce child support payments have been enhanced.
  - The requirements for detention have been loosed. For example, when a child support obligor fails to pay the child support within 30 days even after receiving a payment order from the court, he/she can be detained so that obligors can pay child support swiftly and voluntarily (Article 151).
- Under the current law, the detention order is made when a child support obligor fails to perform his/her liability over three or more terms without any justifiable reason.
  - By granting executive force to the family court's prior disposition (such as having an obligor subject to child support pay child-rearing expenses during the trial), child support can be secured more effectively (Article 140).
- Third, the system and procedures for family litigation have been improved by allowing the family court to handle civil litigation related to family litigation and reorganizing the classification system for family litigation.

### Expected Effects and Future Plans

- When the revision takes into effect, it is expected that the voices and rights of minor children will be more actively reflected and protected in the family litigation process, allowing them to physically and mentally grow more safely and healthily.
- The Ministry of Justice will collect various opinions from the public during the pre-announcement of legislation to prepare the final amendment bill to finalize the revised. Also, the MOJ will make the best effort to ensure that this amendment bill can pass the National Assembly afterward.



# Policies of the Ministry of Justice

## 「Sexual Shame? Let's Change it Now」

### MOJ Revises Inappropriate Terms in Sexual Crime Punishment Related Law

The Expert Committee on Digital Sex Crimes: The 8th Recommendation



- The Expert Committee on Digital Sexual Crimes at the Ministry of Justice announced the 8th Recommendation titled Improvement of Inappropriate Terms such as Sexual Shame on March 24, 2022.
- This Recommendation states that inappropriate terms like "sexual shame" specified in the law for the execution of criminal justice\* at

the stage of investigation and enforcement as well as Act on Special Cases Concerning the Punishment of Sexual Crimes should be revised into gender-neutral terms that focus on the criminal act.

\* Juvenile Sexual Protection Act, the Child Welfare Act, the Senior Welfare Act, the Social Service Use and Use Rights Management Act, the Long-Term Care Insurance Act, the Disabled Welfare Act, the Act on Support for Activities of Persons with Disabilities, the Act on the Prohibition of Discrimination against Persons with Disabilities, Relief of Rights.

- The Committee pointed out that the term "sexual shame\*" excludes the diverse and complex feelings of victims, like fear, anger, unrealism, guilt, helplessness, shame, and more. Also, the Committee criticized the term as sexist, resulting in distorted victimhood being forced.

\*Dictionary meaning: "A person has no face to look at others or she is not proud of herself. Or something like that" (Standard Korean Dictionary)

- In some cases, unnecessary misunderstanding is caused that "sexual shame" acts as a criterion for determining the establishment of a crime and the criminal responsibility and harms the objectivity and neutrality of legal judgement.

- Therefore, the Committee emphasized the need to set a neutral concept that focuses on "violence" with the use of sexual activity, not the word "sexual." Also, the Committee recommended replacing the term "sexual shame" with a gender-neutral one like "using a person's body as a sexual object" that focuses on harmful and illegal acts.

- Additionally, as mentioned in the 5th Recommendation (January 28, 2021), the term "sexual taunting" currently used in several laws is inappropriate because it is highly likely to caricature sexual crime and dilute criminality. The Committee recommended revising the word into "sexual harassment."

- The MOJ will work hard to improve any misconception about sexual crime by meticulously reviewing laws or internal regulations that affect our people's rights and obligations to find any prejudice or gender discrimination against victims of sexual crime and come up with improvement measures.



#### Recommendation Outline

##### 1. Basic Policy

- It is recommended to change inappropriate terms like "sexual shame" specified in the law for the execution of criminal justice, such as the sex crime punishment law, into the act-oriented gender-neutral terms.

##### 2. Recommendations

A. Deletion of "sexual shame" under the Sexual Offences Punishment Act

- It is recommended to delete terms such as "sexual shame" in Article 13 through Article 14(3) of the Sexual Violence Punishment Act and replace them with the phrase "sexually targeting a person's body," a legal term centered on the infringed legal interests and perpetrating acts.

\* Many laws stipulating "sexual shame," such as the Juvenile Sexual Protection Act, the Child Welfare Act, the Senior Welfare Act, the Social Service Use and Use Rights Management Act, the Long-Term Care Insurance Act, the Disabled Welfare Act, the Act on Support for Activities of Persons with Disabilities, the Act on the Prohibition of Discrimination against Persons with Disabilities, Relief of Rights need to be revised for the same purpose.

B. Delete the term "sexual shame" in the law regarding the investigation and punishment execution.

- It is recommended that the term "sexual shame" under Article 56 of the Human Rights Protection Investigation Rules and Article 214 of Administration and Treatment of Correctional Institution Inmates Enforcement Rules be deleted and replaced with a gender-neutral one like "sexually targeting a person's body."

C. Delete "sexual harassment."

- It is recommended again to replace the term "sexual taunting" that is highly likely to caricature sex crimes and dilute criminality with the objective and neutral "sexual harassment."

##### 3. Expected Effects

- Protection of victims of sex crimes against stereotypes arising from the word "shamefulness" and secondary perpetration demanding victimhood.
- Improving the social awareness of diverse and different emotions felt by victims of sexual crimes and realizing the therapeutic justice by recovering the actual crime damage thereby.
- Ensuring that the criteria for determining criminal responsibility for sex crimes are clearly established as a legal concept that can objectively evaluate the perpetrating act itself and the trust in criminal justice is restored.



# A New Trend of Korea: Online Gift-giving

## Growth of Online Gift-giving Service

With COVID-19 spreading worldwide, contact-less marketing is going mainstream. It has been more than ten years since online gift-giving services started in Korea. But in the meantime, people only used those services for holidays, family month (May), or anniversaries. However, as non-face-to-face consumption spreads rapidly due to a prolonged COVID-19, the sales of online gift-giving platforms in 2021 increased by 52% compared to the previous year. About 7 out of 10 Koreans have tried sending or receiving something with the use of online gift-giving services.

The size of the online gift-giving market is estimated to be 4 trillion won based on the transaction amount last year. Considering the size of the domestic e-commerce market was about 150 trillion won in 2020, its share is still small, but it is clear that the market has a high potential. Online shopping platforms such as Coupang, 11st, Baemin, Yogiyo, The Hyundai.com, and Shinsegae TV Shopping, have strengthened their online gift services to tap into this trend. Even banks and insurance companies have offered stocks and plans as gift products. As a result,

the quality and quantity of the online gift market are growing remarkably. This boom has had a significant impact on the gift-giving culture of Korea.

## New Trend 1: Everyday Gift

Gifts used to be exchanged only to celebrate special occasions between close friends because there was a hassle of meeting in person or sharing addresses to deliver presents. But now, the entry barrier for gift-giving has been lowered, dramatically changing the attitude of consumers. For example, male users in their twenties and thirties used to be shy of celebrating anniversaries, birthdays, or any special occasions because they often found it hard to decide what to give and where to buy. Now they feel comfortable giving gifts to their friends, thanks to online gift-giving services.

Moreover, online gifts became a communication tool to express emotional support in daily life—a refreshing drink for a burned-out friend or a pizza for someone who has reached their diet goals. Gifts are now in daily messages and chats. Everything can become a gift at any time.

## New Trend 2: Gift for Fun

The context of gift-giving has become more diverse. "MZ generation," a term that encompasses Millennials and Generation Z in Korea, is flexible to change. They are open to new and unique things and do not spare money or time to spend on what they like. The emergence of the term "Funsumer" shows their characteristics that they consume "fun," not caring about practicality. For example, one of the trends among MZers is exchanging useless gifts for fun, such as a toilet paper roll with a politician's face on it and a traffic sign used on the road. Reflecting this trend, 11st has created a category for unique gift items on its platform. Kakao also has a "useless gift" category.

## New Trend 3: Premium Gift

Until a few years ago, most consumers bought coffee vouchers in online gift shops. But as the market is revitalized, the range of products has dramatically diversified from dining coupons and class vouchers to health and beauty products and even fuel vouchers. Moreover, the range of product prices has been expanded due to the increase in middle-aged users with high purchasing power. A wide selection of merchandise, from sundries to apparel and small luxuries like accessories and lipstick, has diversified the gifting context. In the case of SSG.com, the sales growth of luxury bags and premium strollers skyrocketed. Small luxury gifts from imported cosmetics brands were also highly preferred. High-end cosmetic items, such as Dior Lip Glow, Jo Malone Hand Cream, and Chanel Lip Balm, ranked high on the gifts list of SSG.com.

## What is GIFTICON

Gifticon is a compound word for "gift" and "icon." SK Planet created this word, but it became a common word. It is in a bar code and can be sent and received using MMS or KakaoTalk, a Korean messaging app.

## Various online gift-giving platforms

Each company is working hard to increase the convenience features of its platforms. Among the various players, Kakao Commerce, which started the service in 2010, is the leading company, as its platform sells over 500,000 products partnered with 8,000 brands. According to the Korea Fair Trade Commission's "Online Gifting Service Market Size Survey," Kakao Commerce accounts for 84.5% of the total market. However, as powerful e-commerce companies are eager to enter this field, the market landscape can be possibly changed.

## Example: Kakao Commerce

- Access KakaoTalk app > Click the three dots at the bottom right > Click the "Gifts" icon > Select a product > Click the "Give a Gift" button > Choose friends by Name or Phone Number > Make a payment > Click "Order History" to check the gift history
- From your friend's wish list or the gift trend rankings shown by gender and price range, you can find what your friend wants to have and the most sold products.
- The recipient can change the product option from color to fragrance when entering their shipping addresses.
- With "Gift for biz," a gift platform for business owners, you can quickly and easily send large gifts for events or marketing.
- "KakaoTalk Gift" service is limited in the following cases: non-Korean mobile number or non-KakaoTalk member users, users with unsupported operating systems (devices other than Android and iOS), and users temporarily restricted from using KakaoTalk

## How to use?

The gift can be a voucher used online or offline or a product shipped to recipients.

### How to use a coupon

Go to the store and show the counter staff a gift certificate with a barcode, then they will give you the product. Depending on the brand, you may not order a different item in the same price range. For example, Starbucks, Paris Baguette, and Baskin Robbins allow menu changes.

### How to use a food delivery coupon

Call the store, tell them you want to use "Gifticon," or offer the code of online coupons. Or you can go to the brand's website, select a branch to order, choose to order with "Gifticon," and then enter the gift code. Again, depending on the brand, it may be possible to order a different product or menu in the same price range. In the case of Domino's, it is impossible to change a menu, say from Coke to Sprite.

### How to use a delivery item coupon

The recipient enters their address and receives the product.



## Precautions for use

- **Payment scams:** Platforms do not allow direct transactions between sellers and buyers to prevent consumer harm. Please be aware that damage may occur when dealing directly with the seller you meet on the platform without using the platform's payment system.
  - **Beware of theft:** The barcode or digit code of gift vouchers should never be shared online because someone else can take a screenshot or use the code for their interest.
  - **Validation period:** Mostly, gift coupons have three months (93 days) of the validation period. When the expiration date approaches, the recipient can extend the validity period for another three months. Within the initial validity period, only those who send gifts have the right to cancel the payment or request a full refund of the purchase price. After the initial validity period, the recipient can request a 90% refund of the product price. For expired vouchers, recipients will get a 90% refund of the product price if they request within five years from the issuance date.
- ## Legal issue
- E-commerce companies such as Kakao Commerce, Naver, and 11st came under criticism for lack of consideration for consumers in the refund policy. As mentioned above, only the sender of the gift can request a refund within the initial validity period. In this case, they can get a 100% refund. However, if the gift recipient requests a refund after the initial validity period, a 10% fee will be deducted. Companies explain about this policy that not using gift vouchers can incur an operating cost, considered a breach of contract, which is why consumers should charge a 10% fee. However, as the operating cost of online stores is not the same as that of offline stores, many think a refund fee for a gift voucher seems excessive. Under this refund policy, Kakao Commerce has collected more than 70 billion won from refund fees for the past five years. Constant criticisms are that the refund fee for online gift certificates is excessive, and improvement is urgently needed.
- Also, most platforms, including Kakao Commerce, receive a 10% commission on the profit of the self-employed. Such an excessively high commission puts pressure on small business owners. It induces them to refuse customers to use online vouchers or sell only in batches, harming consumer rights. According to the Consumer Complaint Center, customers are denied the purchase of goods or food for the reasons: online gift vouchers are not accepted on holidays; delivery is being delayed; delivery is not available in your area. Some stores intentionally deliver smaller-sized beverages when customers use a coupon.



Consultation for foreigners  
If you complain about using gift-giving services, contact the Consumer Consultation Center in Korea. Professional counselors in the center will provide advice and information in case of any inconvenience or damage during consumption.

The Korea Consumer Agency  
The Korea Consumer Agency operates a counseling line for foreign consumers residing in Korea in conjunction with the Foreigner Information Center of the Ministry of Justice.

- Contact: 043-880-5400
- Hours: Weekdays 09:00~18:00 (Lunchtime 12:00~13:00)
- Languages available: Korean, Chinese, English, Vietnamese, Thai, Japanese, Mongolian, Indonesian/Malay, French, Bangladeshi, Pakistani, Russian, Nepali, Cambodian, Myanmarese, German, Spanish, Filipino, Arabic, Sinhalese

## Case Studies

<1> On her birthday, Ms. A received a pizza coupon from her friend through KakaoTalk. She tried ordering a pizza with her coupon, but the store refused to take that. The store owner asked for her understanding, saying, "When a fee is deducted, there isn't much profit. So we decided not to accept coupons in our store." She tried to use her coupon at another store, but the owner asked her to pay an additional 1,000 won for using the voucher.

**Q. What should I do if stores refuse to take it?**  
Consumers can use all gift coupons at any affiliated store except in certain cases. It is unreasonable to refuse to take a coupon or ask for an extra payment. Or, if your delivery is delayed too long, you can request a cash refund from the platform.

<2> Mr. B tried to gift a fried chicken coupon to his colleague through an online gift-giving platform. He wanted to purchase a voucher for a fried chicken, but there was no option other than a set -- a fried chicken and soda. Mr. B said, "Since my colleague doesn't enjoy soda, I only wanted to give him a single fried chicken. But I couldn't."

**Q. Can I use only a part of the gift coupon and get the rest back?**  
According to the Consumer Dispute Resolution Standards by the Fair Trade Commission, 60% of the remaining balance (however, 80% for less than 10,000 won) can be returned in cash when used. However, in most cases, coupons can only be exchanged for specific products. Even if it is possible to exchange that for a different item, the balance will not be refunded. Still, if you exceed the purchase amount, you can purchase additional products by paying the difference.

<3> Mr. C did not use a voucher for the online English course within the validity period.

**Q. Can he request a refund for an unused voucher?**  
A. Under the Fair Trade Commission's 「Consumer Protection Voluntary Compliance Guidelines」, if a consumer fails to use a voucher within the validity period, 70% or more of the coupon's value will be accumulated as points that should be used within at least six months. The 「Consumer Dispute Resolution Standards (New Type Gift Certificate)」 recommends refunding 90% of the purchase price if requested within five years from the date of purchase.

## Conclusion

No one would expect that a gift could be exchanged on online platforms. But now online gift-giving services are becoming more common, gradually changing the everyday life of Koreans. More and more people feel comfortable giving and taking gifts on messaging apps. By doing so, they can maintain relationships and catch up on their lives. Still, institutional improvements are needed to protect both consumers and microbusiness owners.



# Taking a Glance at Korean Cinema and Movies

## Food to Enjoy while Watching a Movie



Like most cinemas around the World, there are popcorn, nachos, and soda. However, your mouth won't be joyful enough for 2 hours of a film if those were your only choices. That is why, in most Korean cinemas, you can enjoy a wide variety of foods and drinks to improve your satisfaction. In fact, it is even possible to replace your meal while watching a movie.

For example, there are hot dogs, churros, and soy string cheese pretzels. Furthermore, you can find lots of drinks like lemonade, orangeade, grapefruit ade, ice cream, and milkshakes. These may not surprise you as you may find some of these in cinemas outside Korea. However, have you ever eaten chicken and squid while drinking beer in a cinema? Well, this is totally possible in Korea. Of course, you need to be old enough to drink any alcohol, but chicken and squid are still an option. Also, don't forget that delicious drinks are available for you, so you don't need to worry if you can't drink alcohol. For those who wish to try various snacks, there are combo menus available for you to choose from.

## Special Theater

The environment can change your experience. If you watch a movie in a cozy atmosphere that fits your needs, it is more likely that you will have a better memory of the film. That is why most of the major cinemas in Korea – CGV, Megabox, Lotte Cinema, and more -- have provided

various unique theaters for you to pick from.

For example, if you are planning on going out on a date, then Cine Couple is the perfect theater for you to pick. Cine Couple allows you to have a cozy private date with whom you love on a seat only for the two. The seat has a screen on both sides to protect your couple from being seen by others around you.

Last but not least, you might want to watch a movie, enjoy a vacation in a hotel room, or even celebrate a special day but don't have time to do both. Then, a perfect special theater for you is named The Boutique Private. You can borrow the entire room and play the movie you want at the time you choose. You can enjoy the film and feel like you are at a five-star hotel as they even provide you with room service, wine, and more.

## Booking a Ticket

Before knowing the method of booking movie tickets in Korea, there is something special about buying a ticket in Korea that you should know. It is that you have to reserve a seat while booking a ticket. In some countries, people have to hurry because whoever comes first to the theater chooses a seat they prefer. But in Korea, you can go anytime and sit at your reserved seat. It will not cost you a single penny more or ask you to sign up for a membership because it is one of the required steps that everyone needs to go through while booking a ticket.

There are three major ways to book a movie ticket in Korea. The first method is online. To do so, you can visit the website of the cinema you wish to watch a movie. Then, you can choose a location and the movie you want to watch. Lastly, choose a time and seat that fits you best and pay online. When entering the theater, you can either show an online ticket from your phone or print off a ticket using a self-ticketing kiosk. If you are planning ahead to watch a movie, this might be the best way for you to do it.

Not everything goes as planned and sometimes you might suddenly want to watch a movie after seeing a cinema next to you. Then, you can use a self-ticketing kiosk. Like booking online, you can choose a movie at a time you wish to watch. Then, it will ask you to select a seat that comforts you the most. Lastly, you can pay, and the ticket will be printed immediately.

The two options above might not be the best choice for people who aren't friends with technology. However, that does not mean you won't be able to watch a movie because you can always visit the cinema in person and book a ticket from the ticketing box. An employee will kindly assist you by asking for a movie you want to watch and a time and a seat for you to take.

## Korean Movie Market

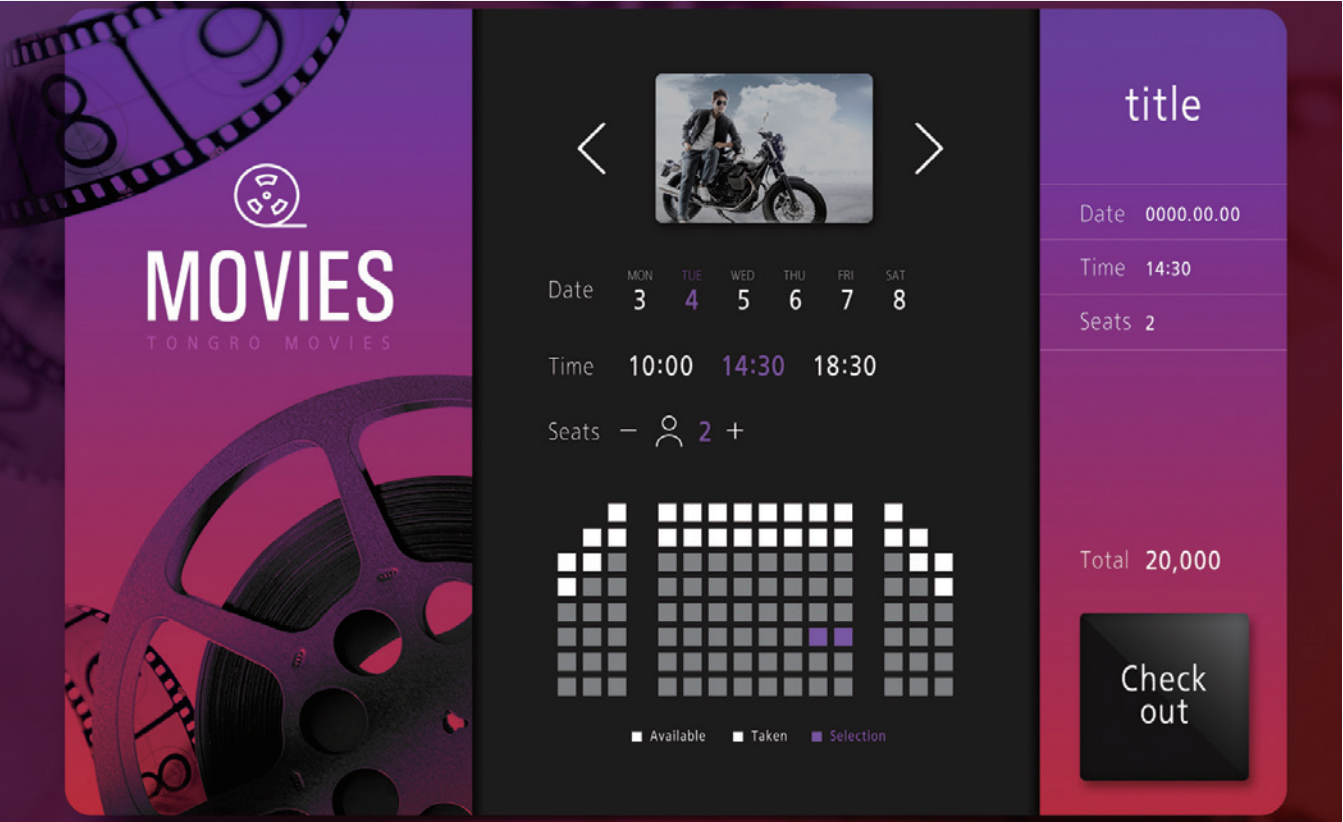
Korean movie market size has constantly increased from 2012 to 2019. Total sales used to be 1 trillion 7123 billion Korean Won back in 2012 but were able to make a huge jump during this period and reached 2 trillion 5093 billion Korean Won in 2019. With the growth in the market, more people started to watch Korean movies over foreign movies. Accordingly, from 2012 to 2020, Korean films had higher ticket sales than foreign movies in Korea. Even though the spread of COVID-19 had caused a break in this positive momentum, this growth led to making quality films like "Parasite," "Minari," and more that got accepted by the global audiences.

There are some Korean movies to look forward to, such as "1 Win" and "The Roundup," which will be released soon. Actor Song Kang-ho and Park Jeongmin will lead in the "1 Win." The movie is about a volleyball coach who never succeeded before leading a women's volleyball team wishing to win a game for the first time. One exciting thing to look for while watching this movie will be to see actual professional volleyball players taking a few roles in the film. It is confirmed that Kim Yeon-Koung, one of the most famous Korean volleyball players, will make a brief appearance in the movie.

"The Roundup," on the other hand, is the sequel movie to "The Outlaws." Like in the previous film, Ma Dong-seok will take the police role. However, this time, actions will take place in Korea and Vietnam, whereas "The Outlaws" only took place in Korea. "The Outlaws" won



several awards and was ranked the third highest-grossing domestic film of the year in Korea and the third best-selling R-rated Korean film of all time. Thus, it would be interesting to see how the second episode does compare to the first one.



## Government Departments

### Anti-Corruption & Civil Rights Commission

<http://www.acrc.go.kr/eng/index.do>  
82-44-200-7151~6

### Constitutional Court of Korea

<http://english.ccourt.go.kr/>  
82-2-708-3460

### Fair Trade Commission

<http://eng.ftc.go.kr>  
82-44-200-4326

### Financial Services Commission

<http://www.fsc.go.kr/eng/index.jsp>  
82-2-2156-8000

### National Assembly Law Library

<http://law.nanet.go.kr/eng/index.do>  
82-2-788-4111

### Judicial Research & Training Institute

<http://jrti.scourt.go.kr/>  
82-31-920-3114

### Korea Communications Commission

<http://eng.kcc.go.kr/user/ehpMain.do>  
82-2-500-9000

### Korea Consumer Agency

<http://english.kca.go.kr/index.do>  
82-43-880-5500

### Korea Customs Service

<http://english.customs.go.kr/>  
82-1577-8577

### Ministry of Food and Drug Safety

<http://www.mfds.go.kr/eng/index.do>  
82-43-719-1564/ 82-1577-1255

### Korean Intellectual Property Office

<http://www.kipo.go.kr/kpo/user.tdf?a=user.english.main.BoardApp&c=1001>  
82-42-481-5008

### Korea Law Service Center

<http://law.go.kr/LSW/main.html>  
82-2-2100-2520  
(Ministry of Government Legislation)/  
82-2-2100-2600  
(Legislative Research Services)

### Korea Meteorological Administration

<http://web.kma.go.kr/eng/index.jsp>  
82-2-2181-0900

### Korean Bar Association

<http://www.koreanbar.or.kr/eng/>  
82-2-3476-4008

### Korean Library Information System Network

<http://www.nl.go.kr/kolisnet/index.php>  
82-2-590-0626

### Korean National Police Agency

<http://www.police.go.kr/eng/index.jsp>  
82-182

### Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs

<http://english.mifaff.go.kr/main.jsp>  
110 (from Korea) / 82-2-6196-9110 (from overseas)

### Ministry of Culture, Sports and Tourism

<http://www.mcst.go.kr/english/index.jsp>  
82-44-203-2000

### Ministry of Education

<http://english.moe.go.kr/enMain.do>  
82-2-6222-6060

### Ministry of Employment and Labor

<http://www.moel.go.kr/english/main.jsp>  
82-52-702-5089 (National Labor Consultation Center)  
82-44-202-7137 (International Cooperation Bureau)  
82-44-202-7156 (Foreign Workforce Division)

### Ministry of Environment

<http://eng.me.go.kr/>  
82-44-201-6568 / 82-1577-8866

### Ministry of Foreign Affairs

<http://www.mofa.go.kr/eng/index.do>  
82-2-2100-2114

### Ministry of Gender Equality and Family

<http://www.mogef.go.kr/eng/index.do>  
82-2-2100-6000

### Ministry of Government Legislation

<http://www.moleg.go.kr/english>  
82-44-200-6900

### Ministry of Health and Welfare

<http://www.mohw.go.kr/eng/index.jsp>  
82-44-202-2001~3

### Ministry of Justice

[http://www.moj.go.kr/moj\\_eng/index.do](http://www.moj.go.kr/moj_eng/index.do)  
82-2-2110-3000

### Ministry of Land, Infrastructure and Transport

<http://www.molit.go.kr/english/intro.do>  
(Day) 82-44-1599-0001, (Night) 82-44-201-4672

### Ministry of National Defense

<http://www.mnd.go.kr/mbshome/mbs/mndEN/>  
82-2-748-1111

### Ministry of the Interior and Safety

<https://www.mois.go.kr/eng/a01/engMain.do>  
82-2-2100-3399

### Ministry of Economy and Finance

<http://english.moef.go.kr/>  
82-44-215-2114

### Ministry of Trade, Industry and Energy

<http://www.motie.go.kr/language/eng/index.jsp>  
82-2-1577-0900 / 82-44-203-4000

### Ministry of Unification

[https://www.unikorea.go.kr/eng\\_unikorea/](https://www.unikorea.go.kr/eng_unikorea/)  
82-2-2100-5722

### National Assembly Library

<http://www.nanet.go.kr/english/>  
82-2-788-4211

### National Intelligence Service

<https://eng.nis.go.kr/>  
82-111

### National Research Foundation of Korea

<https://www.nrf.re.kr/eng/index>  
82-2-3460-5500 / 82-42-869-6114

### National Tax Service

<http://www.nts.go.kr/eng/>  
82-2-397-1200 / 82-1588-0560

### Network of Committed Social Workers

<http://www.welfare.or.kr/>  
82-2-822-2643

### Public Procurement Service

<http://www.pps.go.kr/eng/index.do>  
82-70-4056-7524

### Ministry of SMEs and Startups

<https://www.mss.go.kr/site/eng/main.do>  
82-1357

### Statistics Korea

<http://kostat.go.kr/portal/english/index.action>  
82-2-2012-9114

### Supreme Court Library of Korea

<https://library.scourt.go.kr/base/eng/main.jsp>  
82-31-920-3612~3

### Supreme Prosecutors' Office

<http://www.spo.go.kr/eng/index.jsp>  
82-2-3480-2337

### The Board of Audit and Inspection of Korea

<http://english.bai.go.kr>  
82-2-2011-2114

### The Supreme Court of Korea

<http://eng.scourt.go.kr/eng/main/Main.work>  
82-2-3480-1100

### The National Assembly of the Republic of Korea

<http://korea.assembly.go.kr/index.jsp>  
82-2-788-3656

### National Library of Korea

<http://www.nl.go.kr/english/>  
82-2-535-4142

### VOD Service for Conferences

<http://na6500.assembly.go.kr/>  
82-2-788-3056/2298



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## *The Rule of Law Based on Justice and Common Sense*

### **Emblem**

The Republic of Korea government has changed its official “government identity.” The new logo conveys the dynamism and enthusiasm of the country with the three colors of blue, red and white. It echoes off Korea’s national flag *Taegeukgi* with the *taegeuk* circular swirl and the blank canvas embodies in white. The typeface

was inspired by the font used in the “*Hunminjeongeum*” (1446), the original *Hangeul* text, in consideration of the harmony embodied in the *taegeuk* circle. Starting March 2016, the new logo is used at all 22 ministries including the Ministry of Justice and 51 central government agencies.



Ministry of Justice, Republic of Korea