Korea-Germany Joint Forum on Technology Sovereignty

The Rise of Technology Sovereignty: Future vision and Cooperation strategies

May 25th 2023, Berlin, Germany

Background and Purpose

Over the past years, there has been a remarkable increase in interest about technology sovereignty, and it has emerged to become a key national agenda. Although the concept is not completely new, the COVID-19 pandemic has further exacerbated a debate on technology sovereignty due to its impact on global value chain. Furthermore, there is growing concern among many nations about geopolitical uncertainties, global trade tension and overreliance on foreign countries in critical technologies. This led to an urgent need to create new framework for innovation policy that supports ensuring resilience and achieving technology sovereignty. Agile policymaking and strategies are required to eliminate barriers to innovation and enhance national innovation capacity in close relation to technology sovereignty. Also, this endeavor would require the formation of reliable and strategic partnerships, which will lay the foundation for cooperative technology sovereignty.

In this light, the Korea-Germany Joint Forum on Technology Sovereignty will be held to take a closer look at the conceptualization of technological sovereignty and the definition and provision of critical technologies. It will put those concepts in the context of concrete policy strategies in Korea, Germany and Europe. In addition, potential Korea-Germany cooperation opportunities will be discussed in order to foster complementary competencies of two nations and further strengthen partnerships between Korea and Germany for the development of future critical technologies. This is meant as one concrete illustration of a broader, internationally inclusive understanding of securing technology sovereignty.

The FORUM is jointly organized by Fraunhofer ISI, the Korea Institute of S&T Evaluation and Planning KISTEP and Seoul National University SNU/Institute for Future Studies.

Tentative Program

Time	Program	
08:30 – 09:10	Opening and Session 1 Opening Remarks by Prof. Jakob Edler, Fraunhofer ISI German BMBF State Secretary Dr. Jens Brandenburg Korean MSIT Vice-Minister Dr. Young-Chang Joo Commemorative Photo	
	Session 1 Technology Sovereignty and Korea-Germany Cooperation Strategies	
09:10 – 09:40	Presentation President Byung-Seon Jeong, KISTEP (Korea) Prof. Jakob Edler, Fraunhofer ISI (Germany) Q&A and Discussion	
09:40– 10:10	Session Chair: Prof. Byung-il Choi, KFAS Panel: Prof. Jakob Edler, Fraunhofer ISI President Byung-Seon Jeong, KISTEP Prof. Sangook Park, Seoul National University tbc	
10:10 – 10:30	Coffee Break and Networking	
	Session 2 National Strategic Technologies and International Cooperation	
10:30 – 11:00	Presentation Prof. Jeong-Dong Lee, Seoul National University (Korea) Dr. Henning Kroll, Fraunhofer ISI (Germany)	
11:00 – 11:45	Q&A and Discussion Session Chair: Prof. Jakob Edler, Fraunhofer ISI Panel: Prof. Jeong-Dong Lee, Seoul National University President Byung-Seong Jeong, KISTEP Dr. Henning Kroll, Fraunhofer ISItbc	
11:45 – 13:00	Networking Lunch	

	Session 3 Net-zero technologies and Korea-Germany Cooperation Strategies	
13:00 – 13:30	Presentation Prof. Ki Tae Nam, Seoul National University (Korea)	
	Prof. Dr. Martin Wietschel, Fraunhofer ISI	
13:30 - 14:10	Q&A and Discussion	
	Session Chair: Dr. Soo Hyun Kim, KIST Europe	
	Panel: Prof. Ki Tae Nam, Seoul National University	
	Prof. Martin Wietschel, Fraunhofer ISI	
	Dr. Jongwoon Hwang, KIC Europe	
	tbc	
14:10 – 14:20	Closing and Ways Forward	
	President Byung-Seon Jeong, KISTEP	
	Prof. Jeong-Dong Lee, Seoul National University	
	Prof. Jakob Edler, <i>Fraunhofer ISI</i>	

List of Participants

KOREA

Name	Affiliation and position
Young-Chang Joo	MSIT, Vice Minister for Science, Technology and Innovation
Byung-Seon Jeong	KISTEP, President
Jeong-Dong Lee	Seoul National University, Professor
Ki Tae Nam	Seoul National University, Professor
Byung-il Choi	Korea Foundation for Advanced Studies, President
Sangook Park	Seoul National University, Professor
Soo Hyun Kim	KIST Europe, Director
Jongwoon Hwang	KIC Europe, Director General

GERMANY

Name	Affiliation and position
Jens Brandenburg	BMBF, Parliamentary State Secretary to the Federal Minister of Education and Research
Jakob Edler	Fraunhofer ISI, Executive Director
Henning Kroll	Fraunhofer ISI, Coordinator of Business Unit Innovation Trends and Science Studies
Martin Wietschel	Fraunhofer ISI
tbc	Discussion panel