



## The History of North Korea's Relations with Soviet Union

July 10, 2019 (Wednesdays) 6-8pm, Wilhelmstraße 133, Room 30

**Prof. ChangJin KIM (Sungkonghoe University, South Korea)**

### **Abstract:**

This lecture is designed to provide an assessment of Soviet Union and North Korean Relations during the Cold War focusing on the achievements and limitations of North Korea's Independent Foreign Policy. The Soviet & North Korea's Foreign Policy were characterized by the dualism of Idealistic tendency of strengthening the socialist bloc (socialist internationalism) and the Realistic tendency pursuing national interests (Geopolitics of Eurasia-Northeast Asia).

According to historical observation, the main causes of the success or failure of the North Korea's Independent Foreign Policy were circumstances surrounding the Soviet-China relationship and the change of the Soviet leadership. Nevertheless, comparing to South Korea's long term dependent foreign policy, North Korea built up rich diplomatic experience with superpowers such as Soviet Union & China.

**ChangJin KIM** is a Professor of Political Science Department at the SungKongHoe University in Seoul. Prof. KIM, one of the witnesses of the most dramatic last days of the Soviet Union, obtained a state doctorate in 1996 at the Institute of Russian History, the Russian Academy of Sciences.