

Winter 2018 Newsletter

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Ongoing Discussion

THE NORTH KOREA CRISIS: NUCLEAR CONFLICT POSSIBILITIES AND THE DANGEROUS FAÇADE OF MISSILE DEFENSE

Dr. Jane Cramer, UO Political Science
Dept.

The current crisis with North Korea is extremely volatile, and potentially the closest the United States has come to a nuclear war since the Cuban Missile Crisis. Many US citizens fail to recognize how extremely dangerous this situation is because a nuclear war with North Korea appears to most people to be so unnecessary and catastrophic that it would be irrational, and so it is deemed “unthinkable.”

Unfortunately, North Korea’s leader,

Upcoming Events



THE NORTH KOREA CRISIS: NUCLEAR CONFLICT POSSIBILITIES AND THE DANGEROUS FAÇADE OF MISSILE DEFENSE

When the talk becomes all about who has the bigger nuclear button, maybe it's time to remove the button - and the bombs.

Dr. Jane Cramer will discuss the domestic political roots of the current crisis with North Korea, and possible paths for resolution. She will talk about the ways in which there is a real possibility that this crisis could result in a nuclear conflict and will explain fully U.S. missile defense capabilities, including the very serious problems deploying missile defenses poses regionally.

In collaboration with Oregon WAND, CALC, and UO Beyond War Students.

Beyond War
Northwest
presents:

Dr. Jane Cramer,
UO Political
Science Dept.

Thursday, Jan 25

5:30pm Gather
6:00pm
Presentation

Lillis Complex,
Room 282,
UO Campus

This event is dedicated
to furthering the work
of 2017 Nobel Peace
Prize winner ICAN: The
International Campaign
to Abolish Nuclear
Weapons.

January 25--Beyond War Northwest,

Kim Jong Un is extremely insecure domestically, so it is unlikely he will back down. From the U.S. side, President Trump appears to believe he has viable military options, and appears to believe he has a working missile defense system to back up these options. Further, President Trump keeps insisting he will not accept North Korea's current missile and nuclear capabilities, thus he shows no real signs of backing down. The extreme danger arises because Kim Jong Un is paranoid that the U.S. will attempt "regime change" in some way, and he is ready to launch nuclear weapons if this is attempted. Neither side likely wants war, but war based on misperceptions is a very, very real possibility.

This talk and discussion will analyze some of the too many ways this volatile situation could result in war. This talk will also explain the numerous paths available for a diplomatic solution to this crisis, along with the limitations of these several potential diplomatic solutions. Finally, this talk will also fully explain why the deployment of missile defenses to the region has not provided increased security (U.S. missile defenses do not work).

CALC and Oregon WAND Present:

The Crisis Between the U.S. and North Korea

[Dr. Jane Cramer](#), Associate Professor, UO Dept of Political Science, will discuss the domestic political roots of the current crisis with North Korea, and the possible paths for resolution. She will discuss the ways in which there is a real possibility that this crisis could result in a nuclear conflict and will explain fully U.S. missile defense capabilities, including the very serious problems deploying missile defenses poses regionally.

This talk is dedicated to furthering the work of the 2017 Nobel Peace Prize winners ICAN: the International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons .

Date: Thursday, January 25, 2018

Time: gathering at 5:30 pm, talk begins at 6:00 pm, with open discussion after

Location: [Lillis Hall, Room 282, University of Oregon](#), Eugene

Cost: Free

Editor's note: Dr. Cramer previously participated in a presentation on Korea, May 31, 2017, which is available [here](#).

BWNW People

Further, the deployment of missile defenses has actually helped cause this conflict, and these “defenses” are preventing this conflict from being solved with help from China.

Finally, this event is dedicated to furthering the work of 2017 Nobel Peace Prize winner ICAN: The International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons. ICAN successfully passed an international treaty to abolish nuclear weapons in 2017 which was signed by 122 nations. This treaty, and its real potential for providing increased security worldwide will be discussed.



Rebecca Wolle - Board member

Rebecca's interest in finding peaceful solutions to conflict began when growing up with two brothers, both of whom were more fierce (usually) and armed with quicker wits. This is her first foray, other than marching and signing petitions, into a more formal process.

Good Reading

I'm Right and You're an Idiot is the perfect book to read before having an argument -- not because it supports that mindset, but because it teaches the opposite. James Hoggan, with Grania Litwin, patiently walks through what is wrong with the way most of us approach discussions with people who disagree with us, and into more productive ways of arriving at solutions to the complex problems facing our world.

The book's dedication says a lot: "With gratitude and admiration for those who struggle to turn combative shoving matches into healthy public discourse, and as a tribute to the public intellectuals who light their way." Hoggan divides his material into five sections, informed



Darn

by Rebecca Wolle

Bring me the black wooden egg
with the handle that looks like a silver
spoon.

It slips easily into a sock and helps
me see where the needle needs to go
to bridge the sides of that hole
created by constant friction.

It's time for such eggs, symbols of
renewal and comfort—
time to return to evenings spent
mending what the day unraveled—
no distractions but this ongoing need
for wholeness.

by interviews with world leaders in numerous
disciplines. In Part I: The Polluted Public
Square, he reminds us that "smashing heads
doesn't open minds," that we need to find
common ground, and beware of self-
righteousness.

From there, the reader is led through the
reasons that our values trump policy and
facts, even though we need both to succeed.
Hoggan shows how corporate power and
propaganda weaken democracy. He explains
why we often become overwhelmed and look
for simple solutions, but then he teaches us
ways to offer hope.

Part II: Speak the Truth, But Not to Punish,
emphasizes the critical need to balance power
and love, and to focus on generating
possibilities. Including the voices of youth is a
way to remain focused on what matters to all of
us. We each need to be aware of nurturing
conversation, rather than making a sales pitch.

One of the most uplifting messages of this book
for me was the reminder to use stories to show
what we care about, to return to a slower way
at arriving at possibilities through simple
respect and warmheartedness. The pressing
problems facing us will not go away if we yell at
them or at each other. They might, though, if
we learn to point our faces in the same
direction and lean into the future together.

Rebecca Wolle

Beyond War Northwest is a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization based in Oregon, USA. Our Federal EIN is: 20-0912219.

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