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ECCK CONNECT

NOVEMBER 2021



ECCK Connect Monthly

November 2021 Issue

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Expats Beware: Complication of Inheritance Matter in Korea

Article contributed by Mr. Sung Woo Kim, Partner at Yulchon LLC



Imagine the following situation, which is loosely based on true events. A "Mr. Schmidt," a German citizen married a Korean citizen "Ms. Kim" (who became Mrs. Schmidt), and the couple, while moving back and forth between Korea and Germany, had two children: "Cherry", a Korean citizen daughter, and "Durian", a German citizen son. Then in 2020, Mr. Schmidt died in Germany without leaving a valid will. At the time of his death, his estate consisted of: (i) real property in Munich worth approximately 1.5 million Euros that he jointly owned with Mrs. Schmidt, (ii) an apartment in Seongnam-si, Gyeonggi-province, Korea, worth approximately 1 billion Korean Won, and (iii) a savings account and an insurance plan in his name with Korean financial institutions amounting to a total sum of 200 million Korean Won.

Mr. and Mrs. Schmidt's marriage life was not always peaceful. For that reason, when Mr. Schmidt, who had worked as a university professor in Korea before retiring in 2005, permanently moved back to Germany along with Cherry. Mrs. Schmidt and Durian did not follow them, opting to stay behind in Seongnam-si instead. The physical separation drove an emotional wedge between the surviving family members as upon Mr. Schmidt's death, Mrs. Schmidt and Cherry became embroiled in a bitter dispute pertaining to Mr. Schmidt's estate. Eventually, having failed to reach an agreement, Mrs. Schmidt and Durian filed a lawsuit with a family court in Korea against Cherry to request partition of Mr. Schmidt's estate.



To recap the key facts, Mr. Schmidt died “intestate” (i.e., without a will) in Germany as a German citizen, Mrs. Schmidt and Cherry are Korean citizens, where as Durian is a German citizen. At the time of Mr. Schmidt's death, Cherry was residing in Germany while Mrs. Schmidt and Durian were residing together in Korea. Likewise, Mr. Schmidt's estate was both in Korea and Germany as well. These facts show that this case cannot be resolved strictly within the borders of Korea or Germany alone. Indeed, cross-border estates like our scenario here trigger a number of complex inheritance law-related questions. Most notably, can a Korean court exercise jurisdiction over a German citizen's estate, especially when some of the assets are located in Germany? If so, should the court apply Korean law or German law to the merits of the case?

The above may sound like the plot of a courtroom movie. But given the sharp rise in marriages between Korean nationals and those from other regions including European countries, fact patterns similar to this one are becoming increasingly common. In other words, cross-border inheritance disputes have correspondingly increased in response to the rise in the number of international marriages. Needless to say, each country has its own unique set of laws. That is especially the case for laws governing family and estate matters since they closely incorporate and reflect each country's traditions, customs, sociopolitical values, and general way of life. This is where rules on “conflict of laws” come into play. If legal relationships between individuals involve two or more countries, questions such as which country's court has jurisdiction and which country's law should apply to the merits of the case become key issues that must be resolved before a dispute can be resolved.



Returning to our scenario, would a Korean court have jurisdiction ("international jurisdiction") over the matter? In other words, is the venue where the parties initiated the lawsuit a proper venue that can deal with and render a decision on the issues raised? On this point, Korean courts have held that international jurisdiction over a private dispute with international elements exists where there is a significant link between the dispute and Korea. That is, Korea must have a significant interest in the outcome of the dispute. In this case, since (i) both Mrs. Schmidt and Cherry are Korean citizens, (ii) part of Mr. Schmidt's estate—including real property—is located in Korea, and (iii) the evidence to be submitted during the trial is presumably in Korea, it is highly likely that a Korean court would accept jurisdiction.

But the conclusion that a Korean court can validly exercise international jurisdiction does not necessarily mean Korean law applies to the substance of the inheritance law questions surrounding Mr. Schmidt's estate. Ascertaining the "governing law" is a wholly different question from the question of which country's courts have jurisdiction. Per Korea's conflict of laws rules, inheritance matters are governed by the laws of the state in which the decedent (the deceased who left behind the inherited property) held citizenship at the time of his/her death. Here, since Mr. Schmidt died as a German citizen, the general rule indicates that German law shall apply to the merits of the case. But since Germany is a member of the EU, we must turn to the pertinent EU Regulation on succession and inheritance ("EU Regulation on Inheritance")¹, which is incorporated into German law. For our objective, the EU Regulation on Inheritance states that unless special circumstances exist, the laws of the place where the decedent was permanently residing at the time of his/her death apply to the whole estate subject to inheritance. Thus, German law is the governing law according to the EU Regulation on Inheritance as well. On the contrary, had Mr. Schmidt been a British citizen to whom the EU Regulation on Inheritance does not apply (the EU Regulation on Inheritance does not apply to certain European countries like the UK, Ireland, and Denmark), then there is a possibility Korean civil law might have separately governed inheritance matters with respect to Mr. Schmidt's real property in Korea, pursuant to UK's conflict of law rules.

The issue of which country's laws govern inheritance matters pertaining to a cross-border estate can make a critical difference in terms of the outcome. After all, each country has different laws on the scope of recognized heirs, each heir's share, and the process or means for partitioning inherited properties. Moreover, they may also differ on ancillary matters such as (i) the form required for a will to be legally binding, (ii) the legal effect or execution of a will, (iii) and/or an heir's right to seek "legitime" (i.e., legal right share) as well as that person's specific share.

In this manner, cross-border estates are accompanied by a number of unexpected and surprisingly complicated legal issues. And these legal issues extend beyond court rooms. For example, one might expect that at least withdrawing funds from a non-Korean decedent's bank account with a Korean financial institution would be relatively painless. Even that presumably simple process, however, can end up being quite complicated in practice. Inheritance matters are complicated enough on their own. When bank deposits involving non-Korean citizens are added to the equation, that triggers additional legal uncertainties: Consideration includes having to ascertain the law applicable to the bank deposits, the identity of the lawful heir(s), whether a valid will exists, and the share each heir is entitled to. Financial institutions tread especially carefully because if they carelessly pay out the deposit to an individual who claims to be a rightful heir, they might potentially expose themselves to legal liability if another heir later contests the first heir's inheritance rights or share.

Typically, financial institutions require heirs or the executor of a will (custodian of an estate) requesting payment of deposits to submit proof of the decedent's death and public documents which prove the identity of the rightful heirs, along with documentary evidence indicating an agreement on partitioning the inherited property, the decedent's will, if applicable, and disqualification or renunciation of a heir's right to inheritance. However, since financial institutions set their own requirements for such documents and evidence, we advise potential heirs to identify and accommodate for each institution's specific requirements for withdrawing deposits they are entitled to in advance to avoid delays or any hindrances.

In real life, things can and sometimes do get even more complicated. Take, for instance, the possibility of the decedent being a dual citizen. That would add an extra wrinkle to the conundrum and further frustrate not only the parties but their lawyers as well. Fortunately for us, that is a question best left for another column.

SOURCES

1

*Regulation (EU) No 650/2012 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 4 July 2012 on jurisdiction, applicable law, recognition and enforcement of decisions and acceptance and enforcement of authentic instruments in matters of succession and on the creation of a European Certificate of Succession.

AUTHOR'S BIO

Sung Woo Kim, Esq., is one of the most reputable specialists in areas of domestic relations, inheritance, family litigation, juvenile offense. As a former judge at the Seoul Family Court, including the presiding judge at the appeals court handling various litigations involving property ownership, divorce, or inheritance among family members. Sung Woo is also the author of numerous publications and articles in areas of domestic relation and guardianship, and inheritance.

<https://www.yulchon.com/en/professionals/professionals-view/swkim19037/kim-sungwoo.do>

General News

In November, the Chamber actively involved in facilitating dialogues with the Korean and European governments. The highlights include the President's meeting with the OECD Korea team.



ECCK Meeting with OECD

NOVEMBER 29, 2021

ECCK president Christoph Heider had a meeting with the OECD Korea team on November 26 to discuss the Korea's business environment, labour market, some environmental issues such as ESG, etc.

The meeting was attended by 4 personnel from the OECD Economics Department; Dr. Vincent Koen, Country Studies Division Chief, Mr. Jon Pareliussen, Head of Korea/ Sweden desk, Mr. Jinwoan Beom, Economist of Korea/ Sweden desk and Hyunjeong Hwang, Economist of Korea/Sweden desk. Dr. Tony Michell, Managing Director of Korea Associates Business Consulting (KABC) also joined the meeting to further discuss the partnership between the joined parties.



ECCK President Meets EFTA Secretary General Henri Gétaz

NOVEMBER 8, 2021

On November 6, the ECCK President Christoph Heider met with the European Free Trade Association (EFTA) Secretary General Henri Gétaz to discuss the EFTA-Korea free trade relations and the perspective of the Korean economy.

To briefly introduce, EFTA is an intergovernmental organisation founded by the Stockholm Convention in 1960 with the mission of promoting free trade and economic integration to benefits its members – Iceland, Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway and Switzerland.



ECCK Participates in Invest Korea Week 2021

NOVEMBER 8, 2021

On November 3, ECCK Chairperson Dirk Lukat participated in the Invest Korea Week 2021, Hosted by Ministry of Trade, Industry and Energy (MOTIE) and organized by Korea Trade-Investment Promotion Agency (KOTRA) and Arirang TV.

Held under the theme of “Innovative and sustainable business”, the annual event discussed the potential of South Korea becoming an attractive market for foreign direct investment.

During the panel discussion session, when asked of positive aspects of doing business in Korea, Lukat stated “Korea is a very developed country, also in terms of economy and it is constantly growing. Last year, even with the pandemic which hit us the hardest, there was a small decline but if you compare that to other developed countries, it was actually not that severe. In 2021, we are predicting a 4% GDP growth, which is a positive growth element for a developed country.”



ECCK Meets the New Secretary General of WeGO

NOVEMBER 29, 2021



On November 26, ECCK President Christoph Heider paid a visit to Ms. Jung Sook Park, newly appointed Secretary General of WeGo.

During his visit, President Heider delivered warm words on Ms. Park's inauguration and discussed mutual cooperation plans for ECCK and WeGo during her tenure.

The ECCK looks forward to a strengthened partnership with WeGo in the future!



ECCK Attends Foreign Investment Advisory Council Roundtable Meeting

NOVEMBER 16, 2021

On November 16, the ECCK President Christoph Heider attended the Foreign Investment Advisory Council (FIAC) meeting hosted by the Ministry of Trade, Industry and Energy at the Westin Chosun Hotel.

Attended by Minister for Trade Yeo Han-koo and other representatives of foreign chambers, the members discussed regulations within major fields such as new and renewable energy certification and improvement of the investment environment through deregulation as well as investment plans for carbon-neutrality.



Survey on the Severe Accident Punishment Act

Survey on the Severe Accident Punishment Act

NOVEMBER 29, 2021

The Korea Enterprises Foundation (KEF) is to conduct a survey regarding the Severe Accident Punishment Act(effective from January 2022) in partnership with Chosun Ilbo. The ECCK would like to kindly ask our members for their inputs on this survey.

< Purpose of Survey >

- The Severe Accident Punishment Act (SAPA), which imposes strong criminal punishment (one or more years imprisonment or fines up to KRW 1 billion) on business owners and responsible management managers for severe industrial accidents, will take effect next year (January 27, 2022).
- Foreign-invested businesses in Korea are increasingly concerned about the recent elevation of industrial safety-related risks in Korea.
- Against this backdrop, the KEF intends to identify difficulties facing those businesses stemming from SAPA implementation and utilize them for its media promotion and policy proposals.

<Survey Details>

- The survey is in compliance with Article 33 (Protection of Secrets) and 34 (Duty of Statistics Staff, etc.) of the Statistics Act.
- Period: November 26 (Fri.) ~ December 3 (Fri.), 2021 (8 days)
- Questionnaire for the Survey: [CLICK HERE](#)
- How to reply: : (E-mail) smhong91@kef.or.kr / (Fax) 02-3270-7444
- Contact: (Industrial Safety Team, the Korea Enterprises Federation) 02-3270-7453, 738



Global Alternative Investment Insights (GAI 2021): A Great Success!

NOVEMBER 11, 2021

The Global Alternative Investment Insights (GAI 2021), jointly held by the ECCK and Maekyung Media Group on November 9, finished a great success. Held under the theme of 'Alternative Investment in the Post Corona Era: Opportunity and Threat', GAI 2021 was joined by over 250 leading persons in the field of alternative investment both physically and virtually. The ECCK would like to express our sincere gratitude to everyone who supported the event.

To learn more about the event, please go to www.gai.or.kr.



ECCK Attends the 2021 Korea Times Global ESG Forum

NOVEMBER 1, 2021

On October 29, ECCK president Christoph Heider participated in the 2021 Korea Times Global ESG Forum held at the Grand Hall of the Korea Chamber of Commerce and Industry (KCCI) headquarters in Seoul.

During the event which was attended by distinguished individuals from various industries, participants were given an opportunity to talk about ESG issues and tactics to suitably promote them in business settings and principles.

Following the opening remarks and speech by Korea Times Chairman, Financial Supervisory Service (FSS) Governor and KIC CEO, panel discussion sessions were held, where discussions were made under the topic of 'Global Investors' ESG Investment Principles'.



ECCK CFO Forum on Digital Transformation in Finance

NOVEMBER 3, 2021

On November 2, the ECCK held a CFO Forum under the topic of 'Digital Transformation in Finance – case studies beyond the buzz words' at The Executive Centre.

The session was presented by two speakers Yan Uhl, CFO Korea and Representative Director of SAP and Torsten Berger, CFO & Vice President at Vitesco Technologies Korea, where they shared their first-hand experience and valuable insight with Digital Finance Transformation.

During the session, Mr. Uhl facilitated a discussion by depicting increased expectations towards finance and shared details about the ongoing Digital Finance Transformation at SAP before focusing on the new role of the CFO and Finance in general.

Mr. Berger provided real-life examples from Vitesco in Korea and demonstrated how even from afar, a local subsidiary can trigger change on a headquarter level.

Held in hybrid format, the forum was attended by over 20 CFOs both physically and virtually. We would like to send our immense gratitude to two speakers for the informative sessions, our member 'The Executive Centre' for venue support and all the participants for joining the forum.

For more information on ECCK's CFO Forum, please check: [ECCK CFO Forum Invites CFOs of ECCK Member Companies.](#)

ECCK Co-hosts the 2021 Maritime Conference

NOVEMBER 15, 2021

On November 11, ECCK co-hosted a private maritime event under the title “2021 Maritime Conference” at Hilton Busan together with Royal Norwegian Embassy in Seoul, Innovation Norway, NBA, and Busan Metropolitan City.

The key objective of the event was to engage a partnership between Europe-Norway and the Republic of Korea in the maritime industry. Therefore, during this private event, 49 key stakeholders in the maritime industry had an opportunity to share valuable insights, innovative ideas and solutions.

The conference was opened by Norwegian Ambassador to Korea, Frode Solberg and welcomed by Mr. Dirk Lukat, the ECCK Chairperson. Then, under the theme “Green and Smart Shipping”, first keynote speech was kicked off by Mr. Won Ho Joo, CTO of Hyundai Heavy Industry (HHI) followed by a presentation delivered by Mr. Tommy Rasmussen, President of MAN Energy Solutions Korea under the topic “Decarbonization”.

Subsequently, the second keynote speech was delivered by Mr. Ørnulf Rødseth, Senior Scientist of SINTEF Ocean also followed by a presentation by Mr. Seunghyeon (Stanley) Yoo, Research Engineer / Digitalization Expert at DNV under the topic “Digitalization”. This first session was concluded with a panel discussion with the speakers and moderated by Mr. Andreas Kristoffersen, Chairperson of NBA.

The second session was re-opened by Mr. Yunil Kim, the Vice Mayor for Economic Affairs of the Busan Metropolitan Gov. which was followed by a short introduction of Busan City delivered by Ms. Nayong Jun, Deputy Director of Foreign Investment Attraction of the Busan Metropolitan Gov. Then finally the participants enjoyed the dinner alongside networking.



ECCK's CSR Initiative Successfully Concluded

NOVEMBER 11, 2021

The ECCK has initiated its CSR program back in August and we are thankful for the overwhelming amount of interest and participation from our members.

We would like to take this moment to give appreciation to those companies that participated in the program. They have provided many useful goods including kitchen & home appliances, clothes, food to our CSR organizations to help communities in need;

- Electrolux
- Fissler
- Groupe SEB
- The Hershey Company
- Nestle
- P&G
- PUMA

THANK YOU!



For donating to our CSR Partners!

Donations were delivered to the Chamber's charity partners including Anna's House, Jeon Jin Sang Clinic, House of Bethania, and Shinmyeong Orphanage. We would like to express our sincere gratitude and appreciation to all the companies for their kind donation.

If you wish to make donations to our CSR partners, feel free to check the information below.

Charity Partners:

Anna's House: A welfare organization run by Father Kim Ha-jong (Father Vincenzo Bordo), an Italian-born Catholic priest. Since 1990, it has been providing shelter for homeless and runaway teenagers in Seongnam, Gyeonggi Province. (사회복지법인 안나의집: Nonghyup Bank 171405-51-047081 / Contact: 031-757-6336)

House of Bethania: A social welfare shelter for migrant workers in Korea run by Father Ha Dae-Geon (Father Christophe Bérard) and Symeon Kyung Ok Hwang. (천주교서울대교구 이주사목위원회: Woori Bank 1005-401-277443 / Contact: 02-802-9313)

Jeon Jin Sang Clinic: A medical social welfare center run by Dr. Marie-Helene Brasseur, a Belgian Doctor who has been serving neighbors in Siheung-dong, Seoul for 45 years. (전진상복지관: KB Bank 037-01-0318-564 / Contact: 02-924-9970)

Shinmyeong Orphanage: A childcare facility in Korea run by Ms. Sunju Choi. (신명보육원: Suhyup Bank 2010-0797-6832 / Contact: 032-522-3944)



Anna House's Father Vincenzo Bardo (Hajong Kim) receives donations from Fissler



House of Bethania's Father Christophe Berard receives donations from P&G



Anna House's Father Vincenzo Bardo (Hajong Kim) receives donations from P&G



Ms. Karyn Yun

Chairperson of the ECCK Cosmetics Committee
Scientific Director/ KOREA R&I VP, RESEARCH &
INNOVATION of L'OREAL KOREA



Ms. Sukhee Cho

Vice-Chairperson of the ECCK Cosmetics Committee
Director of Korea Global Product Stewardship/R&D of
Procter and Gamble Korea

New ECCK Cosmetics Committee Chairpersons

NOVEMBER 11, 2021

The ECCK is pleased to announce that, Ms. Karyn Yun, Scientific Director/ KOREA R&I VP, RESEARCH & INNOVATION of L'OREAL KOREA, has been elected as the new Chairperson of the ECCK Cosmetics Committee.

Also, Ms. Sukhee Cho, Director of Korea Global Product Stewardship/R&D of Procter and Gamble Korea, has been reappointed as a Vice-Chairperson of the Cosmetics Committee.

We would like to welcome Ms. Yun and Ms. Cho. Furthermore, we are looking forward to their leadership for the Committee.



Office for Government Policy Coordination (OPC) Regulation Challenge Result

NOVEMBER 8, 2021

The ECKK would like to share with our members of the Office for Government Policy Coordination (OPC) Regulation Challenge Result.

Among the recommendations developed through extensive consultations with our European members participating in our 16 industry committees and working groups, 2 issues from Automotive Committee and Cosmetics Committee raised in the ECKK White Paper 2020 were taken into consideration. 'Relaxation of Standard for Organic Labeling' issue raised by Cosmetics Committee has been accepted. 'Application of Flexibility on Vehicle Width Standards' issue raised by Automotive Committee is considered to go through a long-term, thorough review as various aspects, such as securing safety of pedestrians and drivers, etc. need to be ensured.

'Price Labelling Requirement' issue raised by Fashion & Retail Committee, which was dealt by KOTRA Ombudsman office was also accepted.

References:

[\[Press Release\] OPC Regulation Challenge Result: Website](#)

[\[Press Release\] OPC Regulation Challenge Result: Pdf file](#)

About the ECCK White Paper

The ECCK's White Paper is the chamber's annual key publication. It was first published in 2015 and since then has served as the main source of information on market access and other issues European business is facing when doing business in Korea. Thus, it aims to capture the essence of major industrial issues faced by the European businesses operating in Korea and proposes constructive recommendations to facilitate open and effective dialogue with the Korean government and relevant ministries.

The White Paper is also shared with key personnel at the European Commission, the European Parliament, the European Free Trade Associations' (EFTA) Secretariat, governments of member states of the EU and EFTA, European business interest groups but also multinational organizations such as the OECD, the United Nations and the World Trade Organization.

명품 리폼, 합법일까 불



특별기고

크리스토프 하이다

주한 유럽상공회의소 사무총장

최근 오래된 물건을 재활용해 재탄생시키는 리폼, 커스텀과 업사이클링에 대한 소비자의 관심이 늘고 있다. 이는 개인의 창의성을 발현할 수 있고 환경보호에도 도움이 된다는 측면에서 새로운 트렌드로 부상하고 있다.

진정 상품, 특히 명품을 개조해 새로운 디자인의 제품으로 제작하고 판매하는 행위가 법적으로 문제가 되지 않을까? 결론부터 말하면 명품 리폼을 사업으로 영위할 시 상표법상 금지되는 상표권 침해

[Herald Biz Column] Reforming Luxury Goods – Legal or Illegal?

NOVEMBER 19, 2021

A column contributed by the ECCK President Christoph Heider has been published in Herald Biz on November 17. In the column president Heider talks about the issues regarding the reforming of luxury goods.

Recently, consumers' interest in reforming, customizing, and upcycling – recycling old objects and transforming them into new ones – has been increasing. This is emerging as a new trend in the sense that it allows people to express their individual creativity and helps to protect the environment. Does it pose any legal problem to reform genuine goods, especially luxury goods, into newly designed products and sell them to customers?

To tell the conclusion first, it should be noted that when reforming luxury goods as such for business, it can be considered as trademark infringement prohibited under the Trademark Act and subject to civil and criminal penalties. That is because reforming luxury goods does not simply mean repairing and restoring old products, but rather renovating and replacing fabrics and parts of outdated products to produce new goods in different design.

The following precedents illustrate that reforming or customizing is prohibited under the Trademark Act, as it corresponds to a process of manufacture or repair that damages the identity of the original product. The Supreme Court of Korea ruled that collecting empty containers of disposable cameras that have expired, loading new films, and reselling the cameras was an act of trademark infringement, because even if the genuine goods were produced and sold with permission of the trademark holder, the process of manufacturing or repairing to the extent where it damages the identity of the original product is an act of trademark infringement (Korea Supreme Court Decision, Decided on April 11, 2003).

In addition, the U.S. court ruled that the act of reforming the watch of a famous brand upon customer's request, such as changing its bezel, text board, watch band, or inserting diamonds into the text board, and selling it was an act of trademark infringement (Rolex Watch, U.S.A., Inc. v. Michel Co. 179 F.3d 704(9th Cir. 1999)). Also, the Japanese court ruled that the act of replacing only the shaft part of a golf club of a famous brand with the shaft produced by a third party, and selling it was an act of trademark infringement (Tokyo District Court Decision, Decided on December 25, 1998).

According to the recent trends of specific ways of reforming luxury bags, reformers produce completely different types of products (mainly, the latest design of the same brand) by adding new fabrics and parts needed for reform when they received old or outdated luxury bags from customers. However, in the case of bags, even products from same brand use different components for each model, and genuine parts are not distributed or sold separately. Therefore, even if the parts used for reform look similar to genuine ones, it is highly likely to be counterfeits that use the brand's trademark without permission. In addition, even if the reformer uses fabrics and parts of similar quality to the genuine product or has its own manufacturing skills, the reformed bag has already lost its identity as the original product and does not meet the strict quality control standards of the luxury brand. If these reformed products that used counterfeit fabrics and parts are distributed in the market such as second-hand market as if they are genuine products, consumers who mistake and purchase reformed products could also be victims of good faith, and the reputation and trust of trademark holders could be greatly damaged.

Although operating a reform business and getting paid by the customers is a serious illegal act that violates other people's intellectual property rights, there is a lack of accurate awareness on this issue. It should be noted that reforming and customizing genuine products and distributing them may constitute a violation of Trademark Act, as clarified in previous domestic Supreme Court decision, and may be liable for criminal liability (imprisonment for up to 7 years or fines of up to 100 million won) and damages to trademark holders.

Link to the article: [\[Herald Biz Column\] Reforming Luxury Goods – Legal or Illegal?](#)

New Members

November 2021

HANYOUNG LABOR FIRM



NATIONALITY

Korea

REPRESENTATIVE (TITLE)

Ms. Monica(Ca-Hyun) Oh
(CEO / Labor Attorney)

KONON GMBH



NATIONALITY

Germany

REPRESENTATIVE (TITLE)

Mr. Florian Gablenz
(CEO)

KSB SEIL



NATIONALITY

Germany

REPRESENTATIVE (TITLE)

Mr. Kwang Yong Kim
(Managing Director)

SKYLINE LUCE BUSAN



NATIONALITY

New Zealand

REPRESENTATIVE (TITLE)

Mr. James Thomas
(General Manager- International Luce)

SPC TECHNOLOGY



NATIONALITY

Korea

REPRESENTATIVE (TITLE)

Mr. Jimmy Kim
(Managing Director)

SPERRE AIR POWER AS, KOREA



NATIONALITY

Norway

REPRESENTATIVE (TITLE)

Mr. Byungjin Yoon
(Country Manager)

aSSIST: a Seoul School of Integrated Sciences & Technologies



The ECCK had a great opportunity to meet and chat with the president of aSSIST University, Dr. TaeHyun Kim, on one wonderful afternoon in November where he shared stories related to the school and its programs that are informative and great to be shared with the *ECCK Connect* readers.



aSSIST University president, Dr. TaeHyun Kim. Courtesy aSSIST University

“aSSIST University is operated based on the philosophy of 4T’s (eThics, Teamwork, Technology, and sTorytelling)”, emphasized Dr. Kim.

To explain in more detail, eThics is considered the most important out of the four values. In many of the programs and lectures provided by the school, the concept of ‘eThics’ is emphasized and taught at least 5 minutes.

Plus, nowadays, let it be carrying out a project, taking a class, etc., teamwork is considered vital. It is important to collaborate with others to produce fruitful results and gain a broader perspective rather than working on something on your alone.

To add on is Technology. In line with the era of the 4th industrial revolution, AI courses that combine management and technology have been opened and operated since last year. aSSIST University has provided various MBA courses like AI strategic management, AI big data, crypto, etc. and such are popular courses beloved by many.

In 2009, in recognition of its achievements, aSSIST University became the very first Korean institution to be selected as one of the ‘**Global Top 100**’ graduate schools of business in the world by the The Aspen Institute, which is called the Oscars of ethics education.



Class orientation. Courtesy aSSIST University

aSSIST University's Open Platform System

aSSIST University has implemented an Open Platform System. Experts from various education fields are invited as faculty members regardless of domestic and foreign universities or affiliated institutions. Composed of professional educators and experts, learning of systematic theory and practice-oriented education can be conducted in a balanced way.

To ensure high-quality lectures are conducted, the opinions of degree program students and students who have completed each short-term course are actively reflected through thorough lecture evaluation in each subject.



Graduates of State University of New York at Stony Brook. Courtesy aSSIST University

Acquisition of dual degree at partner universities abroad for all MBA students

All admitted students of aSSIST University's MBA program can acquire a master's degree in business administration in Korea and a double degree from prestigious universities abroad, such as Europe and the United States; Aalto University, State University of New York at Stony Brook and Franklin University Switzerland.

According to the dual degree agreement, some of the credits completed in Korea are recognized at overseas universities, and depending on the individual's choice, one can complete the curriculum of the partner schools abroad.

This makes possible obtaining of a degree in as little as one and a half years, which shortens the period of stay abroad and reduces the tuition fee.

To learn more about aSSIST University and its programs, please visit its official website:

<https://www.en.assist.ac.kr/>

To apply or learn about the application process, please follow below link:

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ECCK Korea-Europe Future Automotive Conference 2021



On November 2, the ECCK and European Automobile Manufacturers' Association (ACEA) co-hosted its fourth 'Korea-Europe Future Automotive Conference' in online. Under the theme of 'Carbon Neutrality and Changes in the Future Mobility', government officials and industry experts in the field of automotive policies and technology discussed about the current status and prospect of the eco-friendly mobility.



Opening Speech by Dirk Lukat, Chairperson of the European Chamber of Commerce in Korea



Opening Speech H.E. Maria Castillo Fernandez, Ambassador of the Delegation of the European Union to the Republic of Korea.

The conference opened with opening speech by Dirk Lukat, Chairperson of the ECCK and H.E. Maria Castillo Fernandez, Ambassador of the Delegation of the European Union to the Republic of Korea.

Korea's plan to accelerate the transition to zero-emission vehicles

to achieve carbon neutrality in the transportation sector

Nov. 02, 2021

Mr. Young Wook Cho presenting under the theme of 'Korea's plan to accelerate the transition to zero-emission vehicles'



The Current Status of the Global Hydrogen Industry & Hyundai Motor Group's Vision



Mr. Ronald Grasman presenting under the theme of 'The current status of the global hydrogen industry & Hyundai Motor Group's vision'



DECARBONIZING FREIGHT TRANSPORT

Lars Mårtensson

Volvo Trucks

Environment and Innovation | Decarbonizing freight transport | Open

Mr. Lars Mårtensson presenting under the theme of 'Decarbonizing freight transport'



Mr. Jerome Sicaire presenting under the theme of "The EU's automotive industry transition towards green and clean vehicles"

On the topic of 'The Road to Carbon-neutral Mobility: EU Industry Committed, but Reality Check Needed', the keynote speech was delivered by Eric Mark Huitema, Director General of ACEA.

Also, featured speakers from the Ministry of Environment, the Delegation of the European Union to the Republic of Korea, Hyundai Motor Company, and Volvo Trucks provided insights and fresh perspective on the trends in the sector.



'Korea-Europe Future Automotive Conference' symbolizes the efforts of ECCK to shed light on the trends of the industry and promote cooperation between Korean and European businesses.

ECCK
EUROPEAN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE IN KOREA

ACEA
European Automobile Manufacturers Association

In cooperation with

Delegation of the European Union to the Republic of Korea
주한 유럽연합 대표부

Partner
Mercedes-Benz

Media Partner
The Seoul Finance 서울파이낸스

**Thank you for joining
Korea-Europe
Future Automotive Conference**

ECCK hopes to strengthen the level of cooperation and expand business and investment opportunities between Europe and Korea.

Pictures of the conference are uploaded on our [Flickr page](#).

Lirico

Authentic Italian Cuisine in Yeonnam-dong, Seoul



Q Tell us about yourself

A Chef Ko: Hello. I'm Donghwan Ko, the owner-chef of the Italian restaurant Lirico located in Mapo-gu, Seoul. I was taught by Chef Sang-Min Kim to learn Italian cuisine. Afterwards, I went to Italy and studied and researched local cuisine myself for 10 years.



Chef Ko with his fellow chefs at pizzeria. Courtesy Chef Ko

Q Tell us about Lirico

A Chef Ko: Lirico is a restaurant that stands for authentic Italian cuisine. All of the dishes are based on the Italian cuisine I learned from Chef Sangmin Kim. Plus, I strive to provide my guests with authentic local cuisine that I learned and felt in my own way back when I was in Italy. What I believe is important is giving the customers the “taste of Italy” by preparing dishes such as carbonara, amatriciana, and ossobuco in traditional way as much as possible. To enable this, I make guanciale, prosciutto, saliccia, etc. myself as those are the main ingredients that play a vital role in making food taste great.



Chef Ko made fresh guanciale. Courtesy Chef Ko

Q You studied in Italy for 10 years? Could you tell us more about this?

A Chef Ko: At first, I started with only one thought that I wanted to simply go to Rome to taste authentic carbonara and other dishes, learn their know-how, and make really delicious pasta. However, when I arrived in Italy, there were diverse food, cultures, and individualities between cities, and it came as a surprise. It was so big of a culinary paradise with distinctive features that vary depending on regions that staying just in Rome and focusing on central cuisine in Italy was not going to be enough for me. I had to get out there, visit more places, experience more and broaden my perspective!

So, I decided to travel around Italy and study the characteristics, culture, and cuisine of each region. By living in various cities like Rome, Naples, Genoa, Bologna, Milan, Florence, and Sicily, I was able to do so. Now as I am back to Korea and running my own restaurant, I am unraveling what I have learned in Lirico one by one.

Q As you mentioned, culture, food, perspective, lifestyle, pretty everything about Italy is different from Korea. Could you share a memorable episode you had in Italy?

A Chef Ko: One of the most impressive things about living in Italy was that they take great pride in their local cuisine. I was surprised and somewhat envious of the fact that, due to the history and geography of the region, the ingredients representing each region were produced locally, and that the special products were used to create world-class regional dishes.

A great example would be Neapolitan Pizza. Margherita made with piennolo tomatoes grown in Naples' volcanic Vesuvius was so good I still think about it from time to time.

Q After 10 years in Italy, you came back to Seoul and opened your own restaurant, Lirico. Are there any particular reasons to this?

A Chef Ko: I would have to say, COVID-19. I had plans for more exciting journeys to small towns in the South to try their food and culture but was not able to do so due to the pandemic.

As soon as I returned to Korea, I prepared to open a restaurant. While I was contemplating whether to open either a restaurant or a pizzeria, I decided to go for the former one as I thought that there might be restrictions on the cooking method or ingredients when running a pizzeria.

Overall, looking back now, it was a great choice. However, as I also had passion for pizzas and my greed for pizzeria was still there, so about a year and a half after opening Lirico, with the help of one of its royal customers, I was able to open an authentic Roman pizzeria called "Pinsaro" in Hyang-dong, Deokyang-gu, Goyang-si. Currently, "Pinsaro" is also in business with great success.



Inside of Lirico, beautifully decorated with plants and furnitures. Courtesy Chef Ko

Q What is the most fun you have had running Lirico?

A Chef Ko: There was a time when customers who came just in time for opening enjoyed the food and wine and stayed until the closing time. What was special about them is that I got to be friends with them and enjoy a glass of wine together. Maintaining a decent relationship with customers is very important to me. Even now, they are Lirico's regulars that visit at least once a week. I also remember that Chef Sangmin Kim, I mentioned earlier secretly made a reservation under his wife's name and paid a surprise visit. The chef I respect the most, and the person I personally think is the best pasta cook in Korea, came to eat my pasta!

Q If you were to recommend one menu item to the readers, what would it be?

A Chef Ko: The menu I put most of my heart into is carbonara. In order to accurately reproduce the taste of what I had in Rome, I use guanciale (salted ham made from pork cheeks) which I made myself and cook in a traditional Italian way. Pecorino cheese and Porcini, known as high-end ingredients in Italy and France, are also added to the dish compliments the carbonara with our own unique taste and aroma. If I were to recommend one more menu besides carbonara, the 'Napolitan Ragu Paccheri' seems suitable. What Lirico provides is somewhat different as the ragu is cooked in a Neapolitan style, rather than the Bologna-style ragu sauce customers are familiar with.

The Bologna style is characterized by minced meat and vegetables, while the Napolitan style has beef and pork bones, Italian sausage salsicha, and tomato sauce simmered with basil. When cooking Napolitan-styled ragu it takes more than 5 hours to boil, and this makes it fragrant with a deep taste like beef bone.



Lirico's carbonara. Courtesy Chef Ko

Q Lirico offers not only food, but also a variety of alcoholic beverages, such as spritzes and the signature Venetian cocktail Bellini. Could you please explain more about this?

A **Chef Ko:** Alongside the authentic Italian cuisine, I figured alcoholic beverages should also be somethings that are beloved in Italy and go well with its cuisine. Therefore, Lirico only provides products made in Italy, not only for Spritz, Campari, and Bellini, but also for beer and wine.

Q Before we wrap up the interview, would you like to say anything to your future customers and ECCK Connect readers?

A **Chef Ko:** Lirico is relatively new, and still has a lot to learn as it is in the process of being complete. But I am confident what is offered here in Lirico is prepared with honesty and traditional methods that bring the true Italy to customers. If you every get to hang out in Hongdae or somewhere near it, don't forget to visit Lirico. Please take care of yourselves amid this COVID-19 pandemic and hope you have a great rest of the year!

Ocean, diving into the unknown

Special Exhibition of Muséum national d'histoire naturelle



A special exhibition of the Muséum national d'histoire naturelle introduced for the first time in Korea! This exhibition held in Paris in 2019 and directly curated by the Muséum national d'histoire naturelle has been renewed and introduced for Korea. The theme is the ocean.

The vocation of the Muséum “educate by fascination with wonder” clearly demonstrates the character of this exhibition. It introduces information about the deep sea through easy-to-understand multimedia, and displays it with various graphics and explanations. However, the message of this exhibition to protect the earth's environment is very deep and important.

The Ocean, a world to explore

The ocean is a single, continuous, global entity. It covers 71% of the surface of our planet but remains largely unexplored. Today we know more details about the surface of Mars than we do about the ocean's depths! To meet the deep-sea, scientists have invented a range of techniques and effective tools over the centuries.

The dream of discovering the underwater world harks back to ancient times even if the first diving bells only appeared in the 16th century. After this, more or less successful attempts to conquer the ocean's depths followed. Here we present a few milestones about this great human and technical adventure toward the ocean. For the last few decades, the needs of science, as well as those of the military and industry, have led to the development of a whole range of increasingly sophisticated devices. Along with the development of manned underwater vehicles, increasingly autonomous unmanned craft have appeared such as subsea robots or deep-sea floor observatories. Seeing the millions of square kilometers left to explore, the undersea adventure is by no means over and will continue to make us dream in the future!

The Muséum is out there!



Bio-diversity collected by the Muséum. Courtesy <Ocean, diving into the unknown> Organizer OPAB

We can observe many kinds of the marine species collected by the Muséum in various medias in this exhibition. The marine environment hosts fewer species than the terrestrial environment but includes a much greater number of lineages, which are differentiated by very distinct anatomical structures. Through its research and its many oceanic expeditions, the Muséum actively participates in recording marine biodiversity.

In the tradition of the first expeditions conducted in the middle of the 19th century, the Muséum organizes many major oceanographic missions. These concentrate on the less explored regions rich both in biodiversity and with groups of organisms belonging to the least-known lineages. The Muséum uses a variety of methods to collect specimens of every size and from all identified habitats.

- 2 million known species on our planet and 235,000 of them in the ocean.
- 1.7 to 2.3 million marine species still to be discovered.
- 2,000 new marine species discovered and named each year.
- 20% of marine species described these last 10 years thanks to the Muséum's expeditions.

And also, since the 1960s, the Muséum has actively participated in the exploration of Antarctic marine life through research programs. The scientists' work consists of collecting fauna and flora samples. The material is then sifted, sorted and labelled in a field laboratory. Photos are taken of the specimens to keep a record of their appearance. Tissue samples are also taken for later genetic analysis.

Above the collection, message as a vaccination against indifference.

A new approach to the ocean is indispensable today, and it can lead to major discoveries! The study and observation of marine organisms have already led to the identification of molecules with properties promising for humanity, as well as inspiring a multitude of innovations in extraordinarily diverse fields. And there is still much to be discovered!

However, we should think of nature as an infinite source of inspiration to be protected at all cost! This is the approach developed by bio-inspiration: to find inspiration in nature, particularly in the extraordinary diversity of the marine environment, to find answers to the issues that confronted it long before us.

If the ocean is a source of surprises, it is also seriously endangered. We can meet three prominent figures with a privileged connection to the marine environment to tell us about their experiences, their memories and their concerns for the future in this exhibition.

Photos from the Exhibition



The giant squid is an animal that breaks all records. Females reach the most impressive sizes: as much as 18m for the largest known specimen! An active carnivore, the animal extends its very long tentacles to attack and immobilize its prey. Its eye has a diameter of 25cm and is the largest in the animal kingdom. In the darkness of the ocean's depths, this particularly sensitive organ is very useful for hunting at a distance or escaping from predators.



The oarfish looks like a long silver ribbon with a shock of hair on its head, and seems to have come straight out of an imaginary tale. Due to its rarity and wide geographic distribution, this animal continues to remain very much a mystery for scientists who often have access only to beached individuals.

The coelacanth was thought to have been extinct for 70 million years until a live specimen was discovered in 1938. An active search for other specimens and rewards for fishermen: every method was employed to find out how coelacanths had been able to escape attention for so long.

OCEAN, INTO THE UNKNOWN

ADDRESS

SangSangTokTok Museum
North Seoul Dream Forest
173, Wolgwe-ro, Gangbuk-gu,
Seoul, 01228
Korea

DURATION

September 25, 2021~ March 6, 2022

CONTACT

070-8800-6335

OPERATING TIME

10am to 6 pm (last admission 5pm)

**Parts of the proceeds from this exhibition will be donated to the Environment Foundation.*

Key Benefits of Joining the ECCK



COMMITTEES AND FORUMS

ECCK regularly hosts professional forums to closely follow market trends and changes in the regulatory environment relevant to the interests of our members.



ADVOCACY

ECCK strives to ensure a fair and open business environment for its members by facilitating dialogues with the Korean government, EU Delegation to Korea, European Commission, influential business associations as well as the media.



BUSINESS PROMOTION

ECCK members can maximize their company exposure by distributing or sponsoring promotional materials at selected ECCK events or publishing company news on our website on request.



NETWORKING OPPORTUNITIES

ECCK functions as the first point of contact for European executives or officials visiting Korea and regularly hosts various formal and informal gatherings to help our members expand their networks.



PROMINENT PLATFORM FOR INFORMATION

ECCK members receive a variety of complimentary periodicals– newsletter, magazine, white paper, membership directory, and survey report– to stay updated on the current market and regulatory issues in Korea.