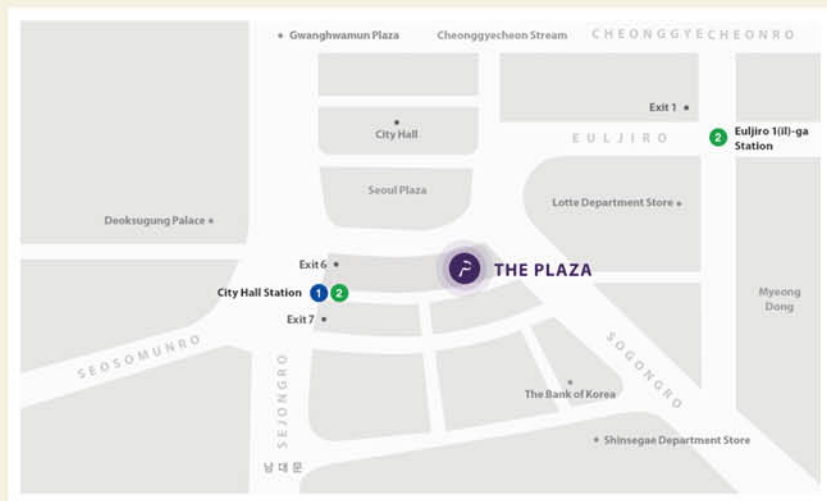


# DIRECTIONS TO THE PLAZA HOTEL SEOUL

Address: THE PLAZA 119 Sogong-ro, Jung-gu, Seoul, Korea 04525



By metro

1-2 minutes' walk from Exit 6 of City Hall Station(Lines 1 and 2)



By bus

Alight at stop in front of City Hall

## REGISTRATION FORM

If you plan to attend the lecture meeting, please complete the following form and submit it by email. **The form should be received by June 26, 2026.**

**Email:** societaskoreana@yahoo.co.kr / ryu@aks.ac.kr

**Phone:** 031-739-9715

### The 108<sup>th</sup> Societas Koreana Lecture Meeting

Name	
Affiliation	
Position	
Phone	
Email	
Dietary Requirements	(e.g., Vegetarian, Pescatarian, Allergies)

※Please complete one form per person

# The 108<sup>th</sup> Societas Koreana Lecture Meeting

제108회 소키에타스 코리아나 강연회

## Democracy, Gender Equality, and Sexual Citizenship in South Korea

Jisoo M. Kim

(Korea Foundation Associate Professor of History, International Affairs,  
and East Asian Languages and Literatures at George Washington University)

Wednesday, July 8, 2026 at 5:30pm  
Maple Hall(4F), THE PLAZA Hotel Seoul

## INVITATION

On behalf of the President of the Academy of Korean Studies (AKS), it is our pleasure to invite you to the 108<sup>th</sup> Societas Koreana Lecture Meeting.

Societas Koreana aims to foster a deeper understanding of Korea within the international community. This program offers a valuable opportunity to explore Korean culture while networking with fellow members of the international community in Korea.

For this session, we are honored to host Dr. Jisoo M. Kim, who will present a lecture entitled, "Democracy, Gender Equality, and Sexual Citizenship in South Korea." We cordially invite you to join us for this insightful event and look forward to your presence.

A dinner will be served following the lecture for all participants. Please indicate any dietary requirements (e.g., Vegetarian, Pescatarian, or specific allergies) when registering, so we may prepare an alternative meal for you. While there is no registration fee, attendance is by pre-registration only.

Your participation will be greatly appreciated, and we look forward to welcoming you to the meeting.

July 2026  
Center for International Affairs  
The Academy of Korean Studies

### Time table

<b>Topic</b>	Democracy, Gender Equality, and Sexual Citizenship in South Korea
<b>Lecturer</b>	Jisoo M. Kim (Korea Foundation Associate Professor of History, International Affairs, and East Asian Languages and Literatures at George Washington University)
<b>Date</b>	Wednesday, July 8, 2026
<b>Venue</b>	Maple Hall(4F), THE PLAZA Hotel Seoul
<b>Time</b>	5:30 – 6:00pm: Reception 6:00 – 7:10pm: Welcoming Remarks, Lecture, Q&A 7:10 – 8:30pm: Dinner, Closing

## ABOUT THE LECTURE

Why did South Korea criminalize adultery long after achieving democracy? Why did women's advocacy groups defend a law that punished women for adultery? This presentation addresses this puzzle by examining the history of marriage and sexuality in South Korea. While many liberal democracies in the twentieth century decriminalized adultery as sex was privatized to limit state intrusion and advance gender equality, South Korea followed a strikingly different path. In response to local practices such as concubinage, the National Assembly enacted a gender-neutral adultery law in 1953 that protected women's rights within marriage. Countering global trends, women's grassroots activism blocked repeated efforts at decriminalization for more than six decades. This history reframes adultery law not as a remnant of moral regulation, but as a central site where intimacy, gender equality, and sexual citizenship were actively negotiated in modern Korea.



Jisoo M. Kim is a Korea Foundation associate professor of History, International Affairs, and East Asian Languages and Literatures at George Washington University. She specializes in the intersections of gender, sexuality, law, justice, and emotions within Korean history.

Dr. Kim is a distinguished scholar who has served as the founding director of the GW Institute for Korean Studies (2017–24) and the editor-in-chief of the *Journal of Korean Studies* (2019–25). Her academic contributions include the award-winning book *The Emotions of Justice: Gender, Status, and Legal Performance in Chosŏn Korea* (2015), as well as recent editorial work on *Emotions, Affect, and Narrative in Korean History and Culture* (2026). She has been recognized for her extensive research with support from the Korea Foundation, the Harvard Radcliffe Institute for Advanced Study, and the Academy of Korean Studies, and received the Distinguished Research Award from South Korea's Ministry of Education in 2023. Her upcoming book manuscript, *Paradoxes of Regulating Sex: Marriage, Adultery Law, and Sexual Citizenship in South Korea*, further explores the complex dynamics of legal and sexual norms that form the core of this lecture.



Scan the QR Code to access the Societas Koreana YouTube Channel