Prof. Frank joined the World Economic Forum

Professor Rudiger Frank, Chair of East Asian Economy and Society at the University of Vienna, has in June 2011 joined the World Economic Forum/Global Agenda Council on Korea. In addition to regular consultations by video-conference this includes participation in the annual *Summits on the Global Agenda* in Abu Dhabi and the *Meeting of the New Champions* in Dalian (China).

R. Frank: "*The possibilities are enormous, but so is responsibility. A WEF member has access to networks that are usually closed to scholars. My research results and insights become available to the highest political and business leaders and thus have an impact global decisions. In particular in the case of the emotionally charged debate about the problems of the Korean peninsula and in the wake of strategic shifts in East Asia it is important to present alternatives and to be heard in relevant quarters.*"

Like the G-20, the World Economic Forum is not without its critics. It is most prominently known for the annual meetings in Davos/Switzerland, in which heads of state participate along with the CEO's of the world's largest enterprises. The eleven Global Agenda Councils of the WEF combine international opinion leaders from business, politics and academia. The results of their discussions are directly channeled into global political and economic decision making processes.

Prof. Frank is responsible for the MA program in „East Asian Economy and Society", which is offered completely in English from Oct. 2011. As the Secretary of the Association for Korean Studies in Europe (AKSE), he organizes its biannual conference in July 2013 in Vienna. With an expected number of about 250 participants, this is the bigvest event of its kind in that academic community. In July 2011 his edited book on „Exploring North Korean Arts" was published by the Verlag fuer moderne Kunst Nuremberg.

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