**Korean Organization Introductions**

*Your host is:*

**National People’s Action to Stop the Deployment of THAAD in South Korea (NPA)**

The National People’s Action to Stop Deployment of THAAD in South Korea (NPA) is a national coalition made up of by some 100 civil society organizations. It was formed August 2016 (expanding an earlier formation) with the goal of achieving the repeal of the decision to deploy THAAD in South Korea. NPA understands THAAD to be a threat to peace on the Korean Peninsula and the entire East Asian region. NPA formed as the struggle against THAAD by residents in the Seongju area was developing in strength, with the specific goal of supporting this struggle and spreading awareness of the problems related to THAAD throughout the country.

*Below are main organizations participating in NPA most of whom you will meet individually as well.*

* **Solidarity for Peace Reunification of Korea (SPARK)**

*Please see the following link:*

http://www.spark946.org/renew/7\_english/1\_intro.html

* **Korean Alliance for Progressive Movement (KAPM)**

Korean Alliance for Progressive Movement (KAPM) was formed in September 2007 to bring together progressive forces in a standing coalition. It formed around the 4 main goals of stopping the US-ROK FTA, achieving the eradication of precarious work, achieving the signing of a Peace Treaty to end the Korean War and the removal of US troops station in South Korea and repeal of the National Security Law.

* **People’s Solidarity for Participatory Democracy (PSPD)**

People’s Solidarity for Participatory Democracy (PSPD) is a non-governmental organization based in Seoul, South Korea. We were founded in 1994 by activists, scholars and lawyers who were engaged in various democratic movements for participatory democracy and human rights. PSPD has been working on promoting people’s participation in government decision making processes and socio-economic reforms, by closely monitoring the abuse of power of the state and corporations to enhance transparency and accountability.

PSPD Center for Peace and Disarmament: Advocating for peace, disarmament and a nuclear-free Korean Peninsula and Northeast Asia

* **People’s Solidarity for Social Progress (PSSP)**

People’s Solidarity for Social Progress (PSSP) is a social movement/political organization formed in 1998 in the wake of the Asian Financial Crisis and the IMF intervention in South Korea with the goal of creating a left social movement capable of responding to and overcoming neoliberal economic and military globalization. PSSP approaches the issues of neoliberalism, militarism and movement building from a class-based, internationalist and feminist perspective and is working to strengthen the labor movement and other mass movements with the goal of expanding solidarity toward real social change.

* **Korean Confederation of Trade Unions (KCTU)**

<http://kctu.org/kctu>

The Korean Confederation of Trade Unions (KCTU) is one of two national centers (union umbrella organizations) in South Korea. It is composed of 16 industrial union federations and 16 regional branches and represents roughly 800,000 members throughout the public and private sectors.

KCTU was formed in 1995 as the culmination of the 1987 Democratization Movement and Great Workers’ Struggle that followed, which led to the establishment of democratic (independent) trade unions outside the government-controlled Federation of Korean Trade Unions (FKTU).

In addition to fighting to defend the interests of its members, KCTU strives to be force for positive social change throughout society. Most recently, it has played a central role in building movements against the deterioration of democracy in South Korea. Currently KCTU is working to organize precarious low-income workers, win a 10 thousand won minimum wage and achieve reform of South Korea’s chaebol (conglomerate)-centered economic system.

KCTU’s Unification Committee brings together KCTU’s affiliates to work towards the achievement of a peace regime on the Korean Peninsula and in East Asia and the ultimate reunification of the peninsula.

* **National Conference of People in Sovereignty (NCPS)**

The National Conference of People in Sovereignty (NCPS) is a people’s movement network seeking to carry on the spirit of the 17 million-strong candlelight uprising and fulfill the desire of the uprising for deep social reform. NCSP includes people from all regions, sectors and ages who are the real ‘owners’ of South Korea. NCSP is carrying out the following activities with the goal of expanding direct democracy, strengthen grassroots democratic capacity and achieving political reform.

* Action and solidarity to eradicate social evils from past administrations and achieve social reform
* National people’s actions to achieve people’s sovereignty and deep reform of the state
* Activities to achieve reform of the elections system and introduction of systems for citizens’ legislative initiatives, citizens’ recall of public officials and referendums.
* Building a people-led movement for amendment of the constitution
* Research activities supporting legal and systemic reform towards people’s sovereignty

*In addition, in Seongju you will meet the Won Buddhist Order, which has been very active in the struggle. You will also meet representatives from the Seongju Residents Task Force and the Gimcheon Residents Task Force. Gimcheon is directly above the Seongju Sosoengri area where THAAD is being station, and thus in direct range of THAAD’s radar and interceptors.*