

Dr. Sue Mi Terry is Director of the Asia Program and Director of the Hyundai Motor-Korea Foundation Center for Korean History and Public Policy at the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars.

Dr. Terry has had a distinguished career in intelligence, policymaking, and academia. She served as a Senior Analyst at the CIA (2001–2008), where she produced hundreds of intelligence assessments—including a record number of contributions to the President’s Daily Brief. She received numerous awards for her leadership and outstanding mission support, including the CIA Foreign Language award in 2008. From 2008 to 2009, Dr. Terry was the Director of Korea, Japan, and Oceanic Affairs at the National Security Council under both President George W. Bush and President Barack Obama. In that role, she formulated, coordinated, and implemented U.S. government policy on Korea and Japan, as well as Australia, New Zealand, and Oceania. From 2009 to 2010, she was Deputy National Intelligence Officer for East Asia at the National Intelligence Council. In that position, she led the U.S. Intelligence Community’s production of strategic analysis on East Asian issues and authored multiple National Intelligence Estimates. From 2010 to 2011, Dr. Terry served as the National Intelligence Fellow in the David Rockefeller Studies Program at the Council on Foreign Relations in New York.

Since leaving the government, Dr. Terry has been a Senior Research Scholar at the Columbia University Weatherhead East Asian Institute (2011–2015), where she taught both graduate and undergraduate courses on Korean politics and East Asia. From 2015 to 2017, she was Senior Advisor for Korea at Bower Group Asia, and from 2017 to 2021, she was Senior Fellow with the Korea Chair at the Center for Strategic and International Studies (2017–2021). She has also taught at Tufts University, Georgetown University, Seoul National University, and the University of Chicago, where she was a 2019 Pritzker Fellow at the Institute of Politics.

Dr. Terry has written numerous articles for prominent publications including *The New York Times*, *The Washington Post*, *The Wall Street Journal*, *The Los Angeles Times*, and *Foreign Affairs*. Her latest article is “[North Korea’s Nuclear Optimism: Why Kim Jong Un Chose to Exploit the Ukraine Crisis](#),” for *Foreign Affairs*. The new edition of *Makers of Modern Strategy* (Princeton University Press, 2023), an update of a classic text, will include her chapter “The Strength of Weakness: North Korea’s Strategy for Survival.” She is also a regular guest on television, radio, and podcasts, including CNN, MSNBC, ABC, PBS, BBC, and National Public Radio. Her analyses and expert commentary have appeared in media outlet around the world, including *Chosun Ilbo*, *Joongang Ilbo*, *Korea Times*, *Japan Times*, *Asahi* and *Sankei Shinbun*, *South China Morning Post*, and others.

She holds a Ph.D. (2001) and an M.A. (1998) in international relations from the Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy at Tufts University and a B.A. in political science from New York University (1993). She was born in Seoul and raised in Hawaii and Northern Virginia.