

Editorial



Hopes of becoming the bridge for North Korean scientists to the world

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On this April 27, North Korea's leader stepped into the South as the first leader from the North ever to do so and was greeted with a smile and a handshake by the South's president. Later that day, it was confirmed by both parties that they had come to an agreement that they will remove all nuclear weapons from the Korean Peninsula and discuss the possibility of putting an official end to the Korean War. Anxiously following the progress of the summit meeting which was broadcast live around the world except the North, most South Korean citizens reportedly welcomed these hopeful statements from the leaders.

All these encouraging outcomes of the meeting was met with skepticism by media, however. This is mostly because of the previous happenings where big agreements like this year were made that later turned out to remain incomplete for more than a decade. It has been also pointed out that behind all those great hopes of making things better as declared in the meeting, the agreement was reported to be short on details, timelines, and next steps. Consequently, it will be critical to stay cautious and keep an eye on the actual follow-ups after the meeting that may be executed unlike some previous deals that never came through.

As an international scientific periodical, the *Journal of Periodontal & Implant Science* will remain optimistic about future outcomes of the meeting despite the skepticism. With all the politics aside, contributions from North Korea to a variety of scientific research areas will be an undoubtedly valuable addition to the rest of the community. Therefore, we look forward to the day when North Korean scientists are finally given freedom to participate in sharing research findings on an international level and we are in hopes to serve as a bridge that can connect the North's science to the rest of the world.