

## Roadmap to Denuclearization

- We have drawn this map before, in the 90's, the 2000's and in 2018 as we looked to Singapore.
- We know where we want the map to lead us: we want true denuclearization of North Korea, zero nuclear weapons capability and as little ability to regenerate as possible.
- We want to see some evolution of the North Korean political and economic system so that it can become a normal state in the international system, not a pariah.
- We want gradual improvement in North-South relations and US-DPRK relations to extend to economic, diplomatic, political and cultural engagement, and an end to provocations from the North and sanctions against the North from everyone else.
- We want active support for all this from Beijing and supporting roles for Japan and Russia, with a Treaty of Peace hard wired into some institutionalized structure reflecting the interests of all participants.
- The roadmap to get from here to there will almost certainly describe sustained diplomatic and political engagement of the US, DPRK, ROK and China.
- It may be pursued beneath summit diplomacy, but the substance of the arrangements agreed upon will be worked out by experts and diplomats over a long period of time: think months to years.
- The arrangements will involve reciprocal steps whose completion can be verified before proceeding to additional steps. The unfolding of the process will build confidence; but trust should not be expected any time soon.
- The chances that we will all follow any roadmap will be increased if the principal parties invest in the process, build public support for it and defend it in their capitols.
- The future of the US-ROK alliance will naturally be sensitive to the evolution of the interests of the parties but, at this point, there is no reason to expect dramatic change in alliance commitments. As we have seen, adjustments in presence and operations can be accommodated without any necessary impact on the health of the alliance.