

South and North Korea Prepare to Discuss an End to the Korean War

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Global Research, April 28, 2018

[The Nation](#) 25 April 2018

Region: [Asia](#)

Theme: [Intelligence](#)

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*On Friday (Korea Time), the leaders of North and South Korea, **Kim Jong-un** and **Moon Jae-in**, met at the truce village of Panmunjom for a historic summit that many Koreans believe could end the war and state of belligerence that has plagued both sides of the Korean Peninsula since the late 1940s.*

Kim's symbolic crossing of the border into the South could also pave the way for another precedent-shattering event: the planned summit in early June between Kim Jong-un and President Trump. If all goes well in the consecutive summits, the talks could end the threat of war—nuclear war—between North Korea and the United States and usher in a new era of peace in Northeast Asia.

To Korea hands who have seen tensions rise and fall over the years, the upcoming summits are a remarkable sign of progress toward ending a North Korean nuclear and missile program that started in the late 1980s to create a deterrent against the United States and succeeded in 2017 beyond anyone's dreams in Pyongyang or Washington.

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