



Constitutional Court of Korea

Association of Asian Constitutional Courts and Equivalent Institutions  
Secretariat for Research and Development

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## AACC SRD Newsletter: July 2020

Dear AACC members,

Greetings from Seoul!

This newsletter informs you of the activities and planning of AACC SRD during the second quarter of 2020. Importantly, AACC SRD's annual conference in 2020 will be held as an online video conference. Also, AACC SRD would like to highlight a new funding opportunity for potential seconded officers.

Yours sincerely,

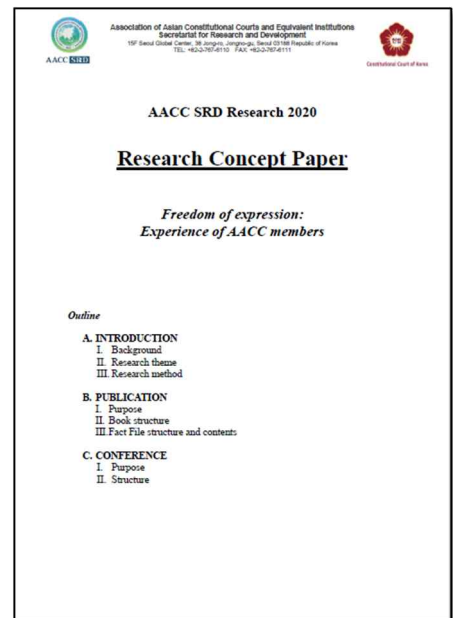
AACC SRD Team ([iod@ccourt.go.kr](mailto:iod@ccourt.go.kr))

### 1. Research Conference 2020

The 2<sup>nd</sup> Research Conference of AACC SRD will be held in Seoul from 23 to 25 September 2020. Due to the global health situation, this year's conference will be held in the form of an online video conference. The conference theme matches the theme of AACC SRD's 2020 research project: *Freedom of Expression: Experience of AACC Members*. As in 2018 and 2019, AACC SRD's annual conference functions as a stepping stone on the way to completing AACC SRD's annual book project. The conference serves as a forum to discuss the research subject of the book. Apart from taking stock of the book project so far, the conference enables the sharing of information and exchange of ideas, as well as discussion on the work of AACC SRD and possible future projects.

The main part of this year's conference will consist of three research sessions. Each focuses on a broad aspect of the freedom of expression. Session 1 ("Foundations") aims to highlight foundational aspects of the freedom of expression within the diverse AACC context. Themes of discussion include the freedom of expression's history, constitutional status, and legal nature, all of which directly impact the scope of and potential limitations on the freedom of expression. In Session 2 ("Adjudication"), AACC members can specifically discuss the protection of the freedom of expression via their existing decisions and judgments. Session 3 ("Challenges") will provide a platform to assess the impact of the internet on the protection of the freedom of expression. The ubiquity of internet communication, especially in the form of user-generated content, simultaneously creates opportunities and risks for the freedom of expression. Session 3 allows discussions in the previous sessions to be reassessed within this new technological context.

Even though the research sessions provide independent platforms for discussion, they are interlinked and partly reflect the envisaged structure of the individual country chapters of AACC SRD's 2020 book publication, which have been submitted by AACC members. Earlier this month, AACC SRD has sent official conference invitations to all AACC members. AACC SRD looks forward to the exchange of information, experience and ideas with all AACC members at the online conference.



AACC SRD's Research Concept Paper was sent to all AACC members in March 2020.

### 2. Secondment: Korea Foundation (KF) Fellowship for Field Research

In operating its secondment program, AACC SRD has been striving to facilitate external sponsorship to support potential seconded officers. As a result of partnerships with external funding institutions, two seconded officers have successfully completed their respective terms of secondment at AACC SRD. Notably, the seconded officer

from the Indonesian Constitutional Court obtained a master degree in law from Seoul National University during his secondment period, financially assisted by one of the external sponsorships facilitated by AACC SRD.

Recently, AACC SRD has discovered a new possibility of financial support for potential secondment. The Korea Foundation (KF) Fellowship for Field Research allows scholars and researchers **to reside in Korea for the duration of a maximum of 12 months, conducting comparative research or case studies regarding Korea-related areas in terms of the humanities, social sciences etc.** The candidate can either be someone holding a PhD degree and having a professional career in research, or can be a doctoral candidate in the process of writing a doctoral dissertation (see below).

<b>Qualifications</b>	<b>Doctoral candidates</b> who have completed their required coursework and are <b>in the process of writing their doctoral dissertation</b>	- Full-time lecturers or <b>researchers with experience</b> in teaching or <b>research at a university or research institute</b> - Assistant, associate or full-time professors or individuals currently in a professional or research field
<b>Monthly Stipend</b>	KRW 2,300,000	KRW 3,000,000
<b>Miscellaneous Support</b>	Travel insurance, one-time settlement support, airfare (only for applicants residing in countries that KF supports, please see the attachment)	
<b>Fellowship Period</b>	1 month (minimum) to 12 months (maximum) within one calendar year	

The application period is from **1 July 2020 to 31 August 2020**. We believe that this fellowship program can be a valuable source of support for research staff of AACC members to work with us in Korea. Research tasks at AACC SRD for seconded officers usually involve elements of comparison to Korean constitutional law.

Within the context of this funding opportunity, AACC SRD can function as the research institution at which the potential applicant chooses to be based during his/her research stay in Korea. AACC SRD can provide some further assistance in the application process. For more details please refer to the attached guideline and also visit the KF homepage: [apply.kf.or.kr/main.nkf](http://apply.kf.or.kr/main.nkf)

### 3. Opening of the New Library at the Constitutional Court of Korea



The Constitutional Court of Korea has recently completed construction of its new Annex building. The Annex building accommodates several new as well as some previously existing facilities that were based in the main building, such as, notably, the library.



Located on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> floors of the Annex building, the new library complex consists of 160,000 books. The 3<sup>rd</sup> floor's section mainly covers specialized publications focusing on constitutional law and other legal materials. The 2<sup>nd</sup> floor's section provides books of broader general interest: humanities, culture, travel, education, literature, etc.



The library is open to the public, allowing citizens and individuals to conveniently access the book collection. The building also hosts facilities such as the book café, and seminar and reading rooms. The new library is an ideal space for current and future AACC seconded officers to conduct their research work. Hopefully there may be an opportunity for staff of AACC member institutions to take a tour in the near future!