

The Committee on Public Diplomacy, a Korean governmental coordinating body on public diplomacy, held its first meeting in August 2017, under the chairmanship of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. The committee finalised "the Republic of Korea's first basic plan on public diplomacy (2017-2021)", which will serve as a public diplomacy guideline during the tenure of the Moon Jae-in government, and designated the Korea Foundation as the public diplomacy overseer.

The participants extensively discussed ways for cooperation among central government agencies and between them and their provincial counterparts; to use public diplomacy capability of the private sector; to raise public awareness on public diplomacy; and to win wider public support in this regard.

The meeting brought together the Committee's four members from the private sector -- a Munhwa Ilbo (daily) editor, a vice president of Kakao Corp., a professor of the Department of Culture and Art Management at SangMyung University and a professor of the Department of Political Science and Diplomacy at Korea University; ten members from the government, including Vice Ministers of the Office for Government Policy Coordination, the Ministry of Unification, the Ministry of Justice, the Ministry of the Interior and Safety, and the Ministry of Culture, Sports and Tourism; and three observers -- the chair of the Korea Foundation (KF)'s Board of Directors and the ambassadors for international relations of the Seoul Metropolitan City and Jeollabuk-do (province).

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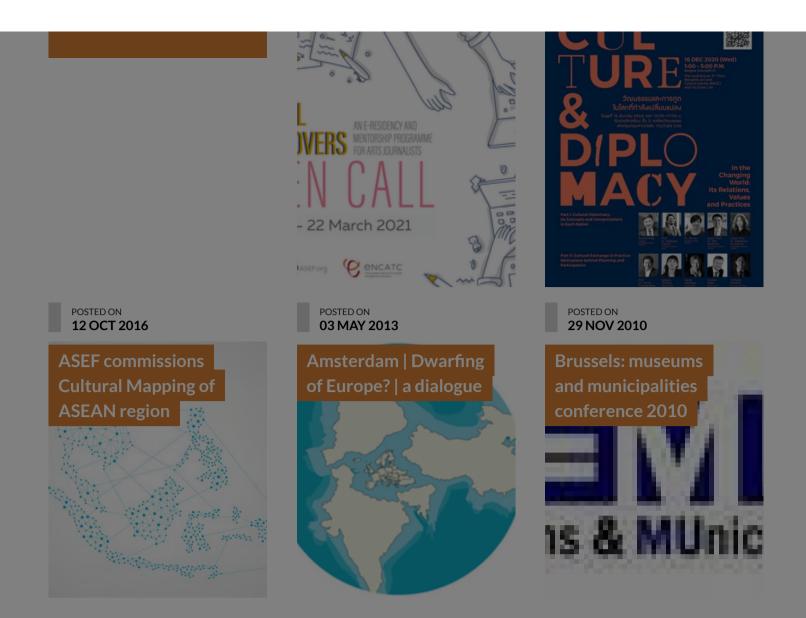
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