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“German Unification as a Role Model for Korean Peninsula”

It has been already 20 years long since Germany has been unified on 3. Oct. 1990. German unification was euphoria not only for German but also for all Europeans at that time. The neighbor countries were worried about German expansion in the European territory due to historical heritage based on the First and Second World War in terms of economic and political powers. Despite the negative points of view the unified Germany has tried to harmonize its roles in creating a good perception of a peaceful neighbor in the EU. To a high extent Germany has succeeded in normalizing its relationships with other EU member nations in general and with its rival countries such as France and the United Kingdom in particular. As a result, it may be safe to say that the German unification could have contributed to bringing the EU to other dimension of being the largest economic and political blocs in the world. There are two nations on the other side of the earth confronting each other and generating high military and political tensions even in the 21st century. These are North and South Korea divided since the year 1945. Strong ideology based on communism and capitalism is still in a reality that influences people in their daily lives. All Koreans regardless of North or South have expressed frequently that their wish is a unified Korea. However, unfortunately it has not been realized yet. Nobody can predict when and how the unification of two Korea takes place. Therefore, it may be wise to ask two questions in order to prepare the unification processes peacefully. Can two Koreas be unified suddenly as like Germany or will the unified Korea be an agenda of the next generation? Where can Korea find its role model if it is unified?