Instability in South Korea: A Democracy must continuously innovate

December 8, 2024

December 8, 2024: Seoul, South Korea: **Kim Yong Hyun**, the ex-Defense Minister was arrested by the Police for advising President **Yoon Suk Yeol** to **impose Martial Law on the country**.

*The MAP.1.: Two small countries - **North Korea** and **South Korea**,*
in the North-Eastern part of the MAP.
Length of Land Borders of North Korea's borders:
with South Korea: 238 Km (148 miles);
with China: 1,416 Km (880 miles); with Russia: 17.5 Km (10.9 miles).
*Korean Peninsula: **Sea of Japan** in the East; **Yellow Sea** in the West.*

Kim Yong Hyun voluntarily appeared at a Seoul prosecutors' office, where he had his mobile phone confiscated and was detained. **Kim** was moved to a Seoul detention center. The police were searching **Kim**'s former office and residence on Sunday.

DECLARATION of MARTIAL LAW: On <u>December 3, 2024</u>, President **Yoon Suk Yeol** made a surprise announcement declaring emergency martial law. This drastic measure was justified by Yoon as a necessary step to protect the country from perceived **threats posed by North Korea** and to eliminate what he described as **"anti-state forces" within the government**. The declaration came amid escalating tensions between **Yoon**'s Conservative Government and the opposition-controlled Parliament. President **Yoon Suk Yeol** had accused the opposition of paralyzing state affairs and sympathizing with North Korea.

Yoon Suk Yeol (**b**.: 18 December 1960) ,
the 20th President of the **Republic of Korea** from 10 May 2022

When the President used the Martial Law to order the Doctors, who were on strike, to go back to work, and increased the number of seats in Medical Colleges by 2.000, the Medical Fraternity turned against the President.

IMMEDIATE BACKLASH: The declaration of martial law was met with immediate and widespread opposition. Within hours, thousands of protesters gathered

outside the National Assembly in Seoul, demanding the revocation of martial law and the resignation of President **Yoon**. The President's **People Power Party** (PPP) is a **Conservative Party. PPP** is in a minority in the Parliament.

The opposition **Democratic Party**, along with other smaller parties, quickly mobilized to challenge the president's actions. Lawmakers convened an emergency session and voted unanimously to overturn the martial law decree, **forcing Yoon to lift the order just six hours after it was imposed**.

POLITICAL FALLOUT: President **Yoon**'s approval ratings, already low due to various scandals involving him and his wife, plummeted further. The opposition parties seized the opportunity to push for his impeachment, **accusing him of violating the constitution and engaging in an illegal rebellion**.

EDITORIAL COMMENTS: www.DiGiNews360.com *calls on both the ruling and the opposition parties to have respect for eachother and to permit the Constitution to work well for serving the people. The issue of* **the lowest fertility rate among the OECD countries** *and the bottleneck created by the failure of the Doctors' Associations to work with the Government in a spirit of compromise are long-standing issues and the democratic leaders must learn to solve the problems rather than carrying the problems forward decade-after-decade.*

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