

AGA 4: North Korean Crisis 1

Time: Thursday 14:00–16:00

Location: B 0.014

Invited Talk AGA 4.1 Thu 14:00 B 0.014
The North Korean Threat from the US Perspective — ●DAVID WRIGHT — Union of Concerned Scientists

After developing its missile program for several decades, North Korea has made surprisingly rapid progress in the last two years. This talk will describe what we know about North Korea's program and what additional steps it needs to develop*and demonstrate*the capability to deliver a nuclear weapon to US territory. In particular, the talk will look at issues related to the development of a successful reentry vehicle to shield the warhead from the heat and stresses of passing through the atmosphere. It will also discuss the US debate over how to respond to North Korea's program, including the role of sanctions, diplomacy, and military options. Finally, it will look at the effect the growing North Korean missile threat is having on US plans to develop and deploy ballistic missile defenses.

Invited Talk AGA 4.2 Thu 15:00 B 0.014

To be continued? - Was 2017 the Grand Finale for the North Korean Missile Program? — ●MARKUS SCHILLER — ST Analytics GmbH, München, Germany

In 2017, North Korea was attributed of having launched a total of 6 different new guided ballistic missile types - a record that would have seemed impossible just a few years ago, and which might seem out of reach for even most industrialized countries today. The fireworks had a highlight with the launch of North Korea's first ICBM, the Hwasong-14, in July, and culminated with the launch of the large Hwasong-15 ICBM in late November.

This presentation tries to illuminate the ratio behind and the systematics of the program, to shed light on some inconsistencies, to give an idea of what the new missiles are capable of, and to understand if that was the grand finale, or if the program will hold its pace over the coming years.