

Preface

As the president of the Korea Legislation Research Institute I take great pride in the recent publication of *Introduction to Korean Law*. In particular, I would like to emphasize two aspects of the publication.

First, the Korea Legislation Research Institute has made various efforts to introduce Korea's advanced legal systems to the rest of the world, and the publication of *Introduction to Korean Law* is a significant contribution to such efforts.

Since its establishment, the institute has clarified 'disseminating information about Korean law to the world' as one of its three principal mission statements. The institute has uploaded English translations of Korean statutes and decrees on its web site (<http://www.klri.re.kr>) so that anyone can have easy access to the information.

In 2010 we published *Einführung in das Koreanische Recht*, the first book to introduce the Korean law in German. Our publication of *Introduction to Korean Law* is a continuation of such endeavors.

Second, I would like to praise the book's academic excellence. *Introduction to Korean Law* examines Korean law in nine chapters discussing the historical background of Korean law, constitutional law, administrative law, civil law (including civil procedure law), private international law, commercial law, economic law, labor law, and criminal law (including criminal procedure law). The nine authors who have participated are all prominent scholars who have provided their expert knowledge for the project. I guarantee that the book will be a great source of information and insight into our legal framework.

In this global era, understanding a country's legal system is a great avenue to understanding the country. I hope this book will spread awareness of our outstanding legal systems throughout the globe, as an authoritative source of legal information for other countries.

I extend my deepest gratitude to the book authors and advisor of this project, emeritus professor Kwon Young Seol of Chung-ang University Law School. I would also like to show my appreciation to everyone who worked on the publication for their sincere concern and hard work. Thank you.

Seoul, October 2012

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