



Statement on President Yoon Suk Yeol's Declaration of Martial Law

President Yoon Suk Yeol's declaration of martial law is unconstitutional. It is a blatant suppression of citizens' rightful freedoms and dignity, a declaration of war against the people, and a direct violation of the constitutional order of the Republic of Korea. It is a challenge and betrayal of the democracy and peace that have been painstakingly cultivated under God's grace. The National Council of Churches in Korea (NCCCK) resolutely condemns the undemocratic and unreasonable actions of President Yoon, who abruptly declared martial law and authorized an armed invasion of the National Assembly.

President Yoon Suk Yeol himself is the primary threat to the freedom and safety of the people, trampling on democracy and pushing the Republic of Korea into a severe crisis. While martial law was lifted six hours later through the resolution of the National Assembly, this does not absolve President Yoon of his grave constitutional violations. Despite the circumstances, his insistence on declaring martial law and plunging the nation into anxiety is an act that demands public apology and full accountability under the law.

Since Korea's democratization in 1987, the Korean people have built a precious trust in democracy, which President Yoon has betrayed. His actions seek to drag Korean society into "deep darkness" (Isaiah 60:2) and undo the progress we have made. In a democratic republic, the President is not an absolute monarch who reigns over the people and commands chariots and horses (1 Samuel 8:11). The President of the Republic of Korea must be a servant to the people, wiping away their tears and understanding their hearts.

The NCCCK, in obedience to the prophetic mission entrusted by the Lord, will not overlook a President who has undermined democracy and destabilized the nation. We commit ourselves to fervent prayer and unwavering action to restore the democracy that has been achieved through the blood and toil of the people of the Republic of Korea.

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National Council of Churches (NCCCK)
General Secretary, Rev. Kim Jong Seng