

MATTHEW F. FLEMING

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FELLOWSHIPS

German Marshall Fund of the United States

NEXUS Fellow

Next Generation Security Exchange on international security policies and deterrence strategies

Washington, D.C.

July 2026 – Present

Center for International Affairs and World Cultures, Northeastern University

Graduate Fellow

Founder and Lead, [Indo-Pacific Minilateral Cooperation Lab](#)

Research Team Member, Transnational Political Networks and the Future of Global Order Project

Boston, MA

Jan. 2025 – Present

Pacific Forum

Non-Resident James A. Kelly Korea Fellow

Honolulu, HI

April 2025 – April 2026

EDUCATION

Northeastern University

Ph.D. in Political Science (International Relations, Comparative Politics)

Dissertation Chair: Mai'a K. Davis Cross

Advanced Entry to the College of Social Sciences and Humanities

2026 Inaugural College of Social Sciences and Humanities Outstanding PhD Graduate Student Award Recipient

Boston, MA

Expected 2029

Keio University

Master of Media and Governance (Global Governance and Regional Strategy)

Committee: Ken Jimbo, Michito Tsuruoka, Koichiro Tanaka

Thesis: *U.S.-Japan-ROK Trilateralism From Obama to Biden: Expanding on Theoretical Norms of Understanding Through Aspects of Building Trilateralism and U.S. Involvement in Japan-Korea Conflict Issues*

Tokyo, Japan

2021 – 2023

GPA: 3.94/4.0

Yonsei University

Master of Global Affairs and Policy (International Security & Foreign Policy, International Law & Organizations)

Selected to represent Yonsei University at Keio University as a Dual-Degree Master's Student

Conferred two master's degrees, one from each institution, upon fulfilling the requirements of each university

Seoul, South Korea

2020 – 2022

GPA: 4.13/4.3

University of North Carolina at Wilmington

Bachelor of Arts (Double Major: International Studies and Communication Studies; Minor in Japanese)

The University of North Carolina Wilmington's 2020 Global Citizen's Award Recipient

Wilmington, NC

2016 – 2020

Cum Laude

SELECTED RESEARCH AND POLICY EXPERIENCE

U.S. Department of State, Bureau of East Asian and Pacific Affairs (EAP/RSP)

Office of Regional and Security Policy, Indo-Pacific Strategy Team

Indo-Pacific Regional Policy Intern (Remote)

Designed a data collection project cataloging U.S. accomplishments under its Indo-Pacific Strategy.

Analyzed the accomplishments during the Biden and the first 100 days of the Trump administrations.

Produced written analysis on public and elite reactions to engagement in the U.S.-Japan-ROK trilateral.

Washington, D.C.

Sep. 2024 – May 2025

Yonsei Institute for North Korean Studies

Academic Journal Intern - North Korean Review and the Journal of Territorial and Maritime Studies

Assisted in substantive and mechanical copyediting of research articles, interviews, and book reviews.

Conducted individual research projects and interviews with scholars for the journals' online extension.

Seoul, South Korea

Sep. 2021 – Oct. 2022

East Asia Institute

Research Intern

Contributed to the research and drafting of the Asia Democracy Research Network's working papers.

Substantive and mechanical support of EAI's National Democratic Institute (NDI) funded projects.

Seoul, South Korea

July 2021 – Aug. 2021

ACADEMIC WRITING

2023. Fleming, Matthew Fletcher. “U.S.-Japan-ROK Trilateralism from Obama to Biden: Expanding on Theoretical Norms of Understanding through Aspects of Building Trilateralism and U.S. Involvement in Japan-Korea Conflict Issues.” 修士学位論文: 慶應義塾大学(政策・メディア), September 9, 2023. Thesis Advisors: Ken Jimbo (primary), Michito Tsuruoka, Koichiro Tanaka. https://search.lib.keio.ac.jp/permalink/81SOKEI_KEIO/6iub1s/alma9926781324704034.
2022. Fleming, Matthew F. Review of “The North Korean Conundrum: Balancing Human Rights and Nuclear Security,” by Robert R. King and Gi-Wook Shin. *North Korean Review* 18, no. 2 (Fall 2022): 100–102. [Jstor.org/stable/27217169](https://www.jstor.org/stable/27217169).

Forthcoming

2026. Fleming, Matthew F. “Transnational Youth Networks and Ultrasociality: Toward More Durable Breakthroughs in International Cooperation.” *Ethics & International Affairs*. Forthcoming.

Reports and Manuscripts in Progress

- The Future of Indo-Pacific Minilateral Cooperation* – Indo-Pacific Minilateral Cooperation Ideas Lab Working Group
- U.S.-ROK-Japan Maritime Cooperation: Emerging Experts Dialogue* – State Department YTL Alumni Fund Sponsored Report
- Why Trilateral Matters: A roadmap for US-ROK-Japan cooperation* - State Department YTL Alumni Fund Sponsored Report

SELECTED POLICY WRITING (Selected)

The Diplomat	<i>Pragmatism with Purpose: South Korea’s Opportunity to Lead in the Indo-Pacific</i> . October 28, 2025.
Pacific Forum	<i>Integrated Deterrence and Minilateralism: Three Years of Indo-Pacific Security in a Networked Way</i> . January 31, 2025.
Conference of Defence Associations Institute	<i>Navigating Instability with Resilient Optimism Post-Trump Election: Indo-Pacific Minilateralism & the U.S.-ROK-Japan Trilateral in a Shifting Political Landscape</i> . Nov. 28, 2024 (w/ Stephen Nagy)
The East-West Center	<i>Roadmap for the Trilateral Partnership: A New Era of US-ROK-Japan Trilateral Partnership</i> . July 12, 2024 (w/ M. Cha, C. Gao, A. Rosadi, and H. Tomoshige)
Journal of Territorial and Maritime Studies	<i>Interview with Edcel John A. Ibarra: Issue-Based Cooperation on Conflict Resolution in the South China Sea - Exploring Roles for ASEAN Beyond the Code of Conduct</i> . June 8, 2022.
North Korean Review	<i>Interview with Van Jackson: Deviant Cases and Near-Miss Crises - Locating North Korea in The Asian Peace</i> . November 30, 2021.
Yonsei University - NOVASia	<i>Olympics’ Toxic Relationship: Examining S. Korea’s Issue with Food from Fukushima</i> . Oct. 27, 2021
Yonsei University - NOVASia	<i>Hibakusha: Contextualizing Japan’s Relationship with Nuclear Radiation</i> . September 15, 2021

CREDITED CONTRIBUTOR (NON-AUTHOR)

The Atlantic Council’s Scowcroft Center for Strategy and Security	<i>A Next-Generation Agenda: South Korea-US-Australia Security Cooperation</i> . November 4, 2025.
Carnegie Council for Ethics in International Affairs	<i>A Policy Framework for International Cooperation in Space Biotechnology</i> . September 8, 2025.

PRESENTATIONS (Selected)

Fireside Chats

2024. **Fireside Chat with U.S. Ambassador to the Republic of Korea, Philip S. Goldberg**
Importance of the U.S.-ROK-Japan Trilateral Relationship, Moderated by Matthew F. Fleming
U.S. Embassy Seoul, Nurimaru APEC House Busan, South Korea, July 13.

Panel Discussions

2026. **Adapting Alliances in a Changing Indo-Pacific: Regional Security and U.S.-ROK-Japan Cooperation**
Center for International Affairs and World Cultures (Moderator), Northeastern University, Boston, MA, August 10
2026. **Sustaining Trilateralism: People-to-People Diplomacy and the Future of US-ROK-Japan Relations**
Harvard Kennedy School, Tufts University, Northeastern University, Medford, MA, April 15.
2026. **Leveraging Our Skills for Trilateral Cooperation Case Studies: Indo-Pacific Minilateral Cooperation Ideas Lab, Trilateral Next-Gen Study Group, and #TogetherWeTri.**
The East-West Center, U.S. Embassy Seoul, U.S. Embassy Tokyo, Honolulu, Hawai'i, March 25.
2026. **Transnational Networks Reshaping Geopolitics**
Transnational Network for Critical Minerals Panel (Moderator), O.P. Jindal University, New Delhi, India, March 18.
2026. **Defending Democracy: Youth Mobilization in Asia and Transnational Networks**
Center for International Affairs and World Cultures Global Crisis Series (Moderator), Boston, MA, February 17.
2025. **Transnational Networks and International Cooperation**
Peace Promotion and Youth Movements Panel (Moderator), University College Dublin, Dublin, Ireland, November 26.
2024. **Addressing 21st Century Global Challenges in the Indo-Pacific Region: A Project for Bangladesh**
International Visitor Leadership Program, U.S. Department of State, Northeastern University, Boston, MA, October 1.

Paper Presentations

2022. **Korean International Studies Association 14th Annual Convention and NKR/JTMS Joint Conference**
Denuclearization In DPRK Post-Russian Invasion Into Ukraine: Security Assurances and Nuclear Deterrence
The Democratic People's Republic of Korea Post Ukraine Panel, Seoul, South Korea, November 24.
2022. **Korean Political Science Association's Summer Conference / 2022 한국정치학회 하계학술회의**
Denuclearization In DPRK Post-Russian Invasion Into Ukraine: Security Assurances and Nuclear Deterrence
Contemporary Perspectives on North Korea Panel, Seoul, South Korea, August 24.

Invited Talks

2026. **Meiji University** (Lecturer)
The Future and History of the Indo-Pacific Idea: Power, Networks, and Credibility
The Twenty-First Century City: The Tokyo and Kyoto Dialogue, Tokyo, Japan, June 1.
2026. **The Defense Industrial Base Institute** (Speaker)
The Free and Open Indo-Pacific: Minilateralism and Security Cooperation in Northeast Asia
Maritime Conversations Speaker Series, Boston, MA, April 9.
2026. **Northeastern University** (Lecturer)
Chips, Cables, and the Island Chains: Competition over Critical Technologies and the Rules-Based Indo-Pacific Order
INTL/POLS 2600, Artificial Intelligence and World Politics, Boston, MA, February 2.
2025. **Northeastern University** (Lecturer)
K-Democracy and a Free and Open Indo-Pacific: Resilience, National Interest, and Regional Coalitions
POLS 4580, Comparative Democracies: Consolidation and De-Consolidation, Boston, MA, September 25.
2025. **Meiji University** (Lecturer)
The Indo-Pacific Opportunity: Role of the US, Japan, & Minilateralism in a Free and Open Rules-Based Order
The Twenty-First Century City: The Tokyo and Kyoto Dialogue, Tokyo, Japan, June 4.
2023. **Tokyo International University** (Speaker)
Graduate Study and International Relations Research in East Asia as an International Student

Tokyo, Japan, July 5.

GOVERNMENT ENGAGEMENTS

Staff

2026. **U.S. Department of State; U.S. Embassy in Seoul; U.S. Embassy in Tokyo; and the East-West Center**
U.S.-ROK-Japan Young Trilateral Leaders' Summit
Contracted TTX Designer and Resident Expert
Honolulu, Hawai'i, August 19-21, 2026

U.S. Delegate

2024. **U.S. Department of State; United States Embassy in Seoul; United States Embassy in Tokyo; Republic of Korea Ministry of Education; Busan Metropolitan City Government, and the East-West Center**
Inaugural U.S.-ROK-Japan Trilateral Global Leadership Youth Summit
U.S. Delegate
Busan, South Korea, July 11-13, 2024

Selected Participant

2024. **The North Atlantic Treaty Organization**
NATO Youth Summit: Shaping Your Tomorrow
Miami, FL, May 13, 2024
2021. **The Ministry of National Defense of The Republic of Korea**
Seoul Defense Dialogue 2021: Borderless Security Crises and Multilateral Responses
Seoul, South Korea, September 9-10, 2021

Invited Attendee

2023. **Office of the President of the Republic of Korea**
The Korea-Japan Future Generation: A Lecture by the Republic of Korea President Yoon Suk Yeol
Tokyo, Japan, March 17, 2023.

WORKSHOPS

Research Workshops

2026. **The East-West Center; the U.S. Department of State**
Young Trilateral Leaders Alumni Workshop, Honolulu, Hawai'i, March 25-27
2026. **O.P. Jindal Global University; the Center for International Affairs and World Cultures**
Transnational Networks Reshaping Geopolitics, New Delhi, India, March 17-18
2025. **University College Dublin; the Center for International Affairs and World Cultures**
Transnational Networks and International Cooperation, Dublin, Ireland, November 25-26
2025. **Norwegian Institute of International Affairs; the Center for International Affairs and World Cultures**
The Transnational Political Networks & the Future of Global Order Project, October 15-16
2025. **Atlantic Council's Indo-Pacific Security Initiative; the Korea Foundation**
A Next-Generation Agenda: ROK-US-Australia Security Cooperation, June 25 and July 29, Washington, DC.
2025. **Northeastern University; The Center for International Affairs and World Cultures**
The Transnational Political Networks & the Future of Global Order Project, Boston, April 9-10
2024. **Center for Global Security Research, Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory**
Deterrence in the 2025 National Defense Strategy Review, December 10-11, Livermore, CA, 2024.
2024. **The U.S. Department of State; the East-West Center**
US-ROK-Japan Trilateral Leadership Workshop Series, June 28, May 17, April 12, and March 29, Washington, DC.

Tabletop Exercises (TTX)

2026. **United States Studies Centre at the University of Sydney; Northrop Grumman**
2026 Tokyo Coalition IAMD TTX, Tokyo, Japan, May 14-15

Policy Roundtables

2025. **Council on Foreign Relations**
The New Nuclear Age: Boston Roundtable, Boston, MA, April 15.

2025. **RAND Corporation**
Great Power Competition and Indo-Pacific Security, Washington, D.C., Nov 21.

PROJECTS

Current Projects

“[Indo-Pacific Minilateral Cooperation Lab](#),” *In Progress*. Northeastern University.

Founder and Lab Lead: Matthew F. Fleming

Projects Supported by a U.S. State Department Young Trilateral Leaders’ Alumni Grant Fund

Implemented under the Center for International Affairs and World Cultures

“Transnational Political Networks and the Future of Global Order Project,” *Research Team Member*. Northeastern University.

Principal Investigator: Mai’a K. Davis Cross | Implemented at the Center for International Affairs and World Cultures

Supported by a grant from the Carnegie Corporation of New York

1. *Northeastern University Workshop*, Boston, MA, April 9-10

2. *Norwegian Institute of International Affairs Workshop*, Oslo, Norway, October 15-16

Keynote: *Norwegian Nobel Institute*: How to Achieve Nuclear Disarmament, October 15

Keynote: *Iver B. Neumann*: Is International Cooperation Still Possible, October 16

3. *University College Dublin Workshop*, Dublin, Ireland, November 25-26

4. *O.P. Jindal Global University Workshop*, New Delhi, India, March 17-18

Keynote: *Shashi Tharoor*: Transnational Cooperation in an Age of Conflict

5. *Northeastern University Early Career Workshop*, Boston, MA, September 24-25

TEACHING

International Program Teaching Assistant

POLS 4937. Government & Politics Abroad (w/ Liza Weinstein), Northeastern University and Meiji University, in Tokyo, Japan

Taught: Summer 2026; Summer 2025

POLS 4938. International Politics Abroad, (w/ Lori Gardinier), Northeastern University and Meiji University, in Tokyo, Japan

Taught: Summer 2026; Summer 2025

Head Teaching Assistant

INTL 3406. International Law (w/ Denise Garcia), Northeastern University, in Boston, MA

Taught: Fall 2024

Resident Researcher

INTL/POLS 2600. Artificial Intelligence and World Politics (w/ Denise Garcia), Northeastern University, in Boston, MA

Taught: Spring 2026

TRAINING

Pedagogy

2020. TQUK Level 5 Certificate In Teaching English As A Foreign Language (RQF), Training Qualifications UK.

120 hours of Coursework (International TEFL Academy) / 20 Student Teaching Hours (UNC Wilmington ESL program).

Language

2016-20. Japanese Minor, University of North Carolina Wilmington.

AWARDS AND RECOGNITION

Academic Honors

2026. Inaugural College of Social Sciences and Humanities Outstanding PhD Graduate Student Award, Northeastern University.
2023. Graduate School of Media and Governance Diploma Receipt Vice Representative (学位記受領副代表), Keio University.
2020. Global Citizen's Award, University of North Carolina Wilmington.

Selected Recognition

2024. Congratulatory Letter from President Joseph R. Biden Jr.
Presented individually to each delegate of the inaugural U.S.-ROK-Japan Trilateral Global Leadership Youth Summit, recognizing the cohort as emerging voices poised to shape the future of trilateral cooperation.
2016. Eagle Scout, Boy Scouts of America.

GRANTS AND SCHOLARSHIPS

Research Grants

2026. Young Trilateral Leaders Alumni Project Fund, Principal Investigator, (\$7,000), U.S. Department of State.
2026. Young Trilateral Leaders Alumni Project Fund, Co-Principal Investigator, (\$7,800), U.S. Department of State.
2021/2022/2023. Graduate School of Media and Governance Research Fund, Keio University.

Travel Grants

2026. Political Science Travel Research Fund, Northeastern University.
2019. The Parrish-Betts Travel Award, University of North Carolina Wilmington.
2019. International Programs Travel Award, University of North Carolina Wilmington.

Scholarships

2024-2029. Five-year Full Tuition Scholarship and Annual Stipend, Northeastern University.
2021-2023. Yonsei-Keio Dual Degree Master's Program Tuition Scholarship and Stipend, Yonsei University/Keio University.
2020. Graduate School of International Studies Incoming Student Award, Yonsei University.

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

Active Membership

Since 2024. U.S. State Department - *Young Trilateral Leaders Network Inaugural Member (YTL)*
Since 2024. The East-West Center - *Alumni Network Member*
Since 2024. Pacific Forum - *Young Leaders Program Network Member*

Past Membership

Korean Political Science Association – *Associate Member*
Atlantic Council – *Indo-Pacific Security Initiative Next Generation Agenda Network Member*
British American Security Information Council – *Emerging Voices Network Member*