The Kim Jong Un government has continued to develop the nuclear weapons and proliferation programmes that marked much of his father's time in power. There is no indication that Pyongyang will be giving up these programmes any time soon. Concurrently, North Korea seems to have embarked on an economic reform process which includes attracting both investment and tourists.

This has been accompanied by a diplomatic opening up involving the establishment of new embassies and engagement with selected international institutions. How can these seemingly contradictory processes of military build-up and proliferation on the one hand reform and normalization on the other work together? What are the goals that the North Korean regime is seeking to obtain with them? These issues will be discussed in detail in this talk.

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