

	<i>1998 Constitution of DPRK<sup>1</sup> (unofficial translation)</i>	<i>Constitution of DPRK post-2011<sup>2</sup> (official translation)</i>	<i>Changes?</i>
<b>Chapter 1: Politics</b> <i>Article 1</i>	The Democratic People’s Republic of Korea is an independent socialist state representing the interests of all the Korean people.	The Democratic People’s Republic of Korea is an independent socialist State representing the interests of all the Korean people.	No changes.
<i>Article 2</i>	The DPRK is a revolutionary state which has inherited brilliant traditions formed during the glorious revolutionary struggle against the imperialist aggressors, in the struggle to achieve the liberation of the homeland and the freedom and well-being of the people.	The Democratic People’s Republic of Korea is a revolutionary State which has inherited the brilliant traditions formed during the glorious revolutionary struggle against the imperialist aggressors and in the struggle to achieve the liberation of the homeland and the freedom and well-being of the people.	Main change is from DPRK to Democratic People’s Republic of Korea, otherwise no other noticeable changes.
<i>Article 3</i>	The DPRK is guided in its activities by the Juche idea, a world outlook centered on people, a revolutionary ideology for achieving the independence of the masses of people.	The Democratic People’s Republic of Korea is guided in its activities by the Juche idea and the Songun idea, a world outlook centred on people, a revolutionary ideology for achieving the independence of the masses of the people.	The “Songun idea” has been added as part of the guiding ideology of the state and DPRK has changed to Democratic People’s Republic of Korea. Otherwise, no changes.
<i>Article 4</i>	The sovereignty of the DPRK resides in the workers, peasants, working intellectuals and all other working people. The working people exercise power through their representative organs—	The sovereignty of the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea resides in the workers, peasants, soldiers, working intellectuals and all other working people. The working people exercise State	DPRK has changed to Democratic People’s Republic of Korea. Otherwise, the word “soldiers” has been added to those with which the sovereignty of the state resides showing the importance

1 [https://www.constituteproject.org/constitution/Peoples\\_Republic\\_of\\_Korea\\_1998.pdf?lang=en](https://www.constituteproject.org/constitution/Peoples_Republic_of_Korea_1998.pdf?lang=en)

2 <https://leftistcritic.files.wordpress.com/2018/02/socialist-constitution-of-dprk.pdf>

	the Supreme People's Assembly and local people's assemblies at all levels.	power through their representative organs—the Supreme People's Assembly and local People's Assemblies at all levels.	of the defense of the state from outside sources, to say the least.
<i>Article 5</i>	All the State organs in the DPRK are formed and function on the principle of democratic centralism	All State organs in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea are formed and function on the principle of democratic centralism	DPRK has changed to Democratic People's Republic of Korea. No other changes.
<i>Article 6</i>	The organs of State power at all levels, from the county People's Assembly to the SPA, are elected on the principle of universal, equal and direct suffrage by secret ballot.	The organs of State power at all levels, from the county People's Assembly to the Supreme People's Assembly, are elected on the principle of universal, equal and direct suffrage by secret ballot.	SPA has been changed to Supreme People's Assembly. Otherwise, no other changes.
<i>Article 7</i>	Deputies to the organs of State power at all levels have close ties with their constituents and are accountable to them for their work. The electors may recall the deputies they have elected if the latter are not to be trusted.	Deputies to the organs of State power at all levels have close ties with their constituents and are accountable to them for their work. The electors may recall at any time the deputies they have elected if the latter lose the trust of the former.	No changes, except in the last sentence. But this could be a matter of translation, rather than an actual change.
<i>Article 8</i>	The social system of the DPRK is a people-centered system under which the working people are masters of everything, and everything in society serves the working people. The State shall defend and protect the interests of the workers, peasants and working intellectuals who have been freed from	The social system of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea is a people-centred system under which the working people are the masters of everything and everything in society serves them. The State shall defend the interests of the workers, peasants, soldiers, working intellectuals and all other working	DPRK has changed to Democratic People's Republic of Korea. The phrasing of "everything in society serves the working people" has been changed to "everything in society serves them." Soldiers are now included as among the working people, and the phrasing that such people are "freed from exploitation

	exploitation and oppression and become masters of the State and society.	people who have been freed from exploitation and oppression and become the masters of the State and society, and respect and protect human rights.	and oppression and become the masters of the State and society, and respect and protect human rights” has been added, the latter part of this phrasing interesting.
<i>Article 9</i>	The DPRK shall strive to achieve the complete victory of socialism in the northern half of Korea by strengthening the people’s power and vigorously performing the three revolutions—the ideological, cultural and technical—and reunify the country on the principle of independence, peaceful reunification and great national unity.	The Democratic People’s Republic of Korea shall strive to achieve the complete victory of socialism in the northern half of Korea by strengthening the people’s power and vigorously performing the three revolutions—ideological, technological and cultural—and reunify the country on the principle of independence, peaceful reunification and great national unity.	DPRK has changed to Democratic People’s Republic of Korea. Importantly, “ideological, cultural and technical” has changed to “ideological, technological and cultural” for the three revolutions, which could just be a matter of translation, yet again.
<i>Article 10</i>	The DPRK bases itself on the political and ideological unity of the entire people based on the worker-peasant alliance in which the working class plays a leading role. The State strengthens the ideological revolution and revolutionizes and working-classizes all the social members, and binds the whole society in a united group, linked up with comradeship.	The Democratic People’s Republic of Korea is underpinned by the politico-ideological unity of all the people based on the worker-peasant alliance led by the working class. The State shall revolutionize all the members of society, and assimilate them to the working class by intensifying the ideological revolution, and shall turn the whole of society into a collective, united in a comradely way.	DPRK has changed to Democratic People’s Republic of Korea. “Political and ideological unity” has changed to “politico-ideological unity” and it is said that within the worker-peasant alliance, such an alliance is led “by the working class.” The other parts of this section could be a matter of different translation.
<i>Article 11</i>	The DPRK shall conduct all activities under the leadership of the Workers’ Party of	The Democratic People’s Republic of Korea shall conduct all activities under the	DPRK has changed to Democratic People’s Republic of Korea. No other changes.

	Korea.	leadership of the Workers' Party of Korea.	
<i>Article 12</i>	The State shall adhere to the class line, strengthen the dictatorship of people's democracy and firmly defend the people's power and socialist system against all subversive acts of hostile elements at home and abroad.	The State shall adhere to the class line and strengthen the dictatorship of the people's democracy so as to firmly defend the people's power and socialist system against all subversive acts of hostile elements at home and abroad.	Seems to be only minor changes in wording, making me think that such changes are only a matter of translation.
<i>Article 13</i>	The State shall implement the mass line and apply the Chongsanri spirit and Chongsanri method to all its activities, the spirit and method by which superiors assist their subordinates, mix with the masses to find solutions to problems and rouse them to conscious enthusiasm preferentially through political work, with people.	The State shall implement the mass line and apply the Chongsanri spirit and Chongsanri method to all its activities, the spirit and method by which superiors assist their subordinates, mix with the masses to find solutions to problems and rouse them to conscious enthusiasm by giving precedence to political work, work with people.	Seems to be only minor changes in wording, making me think that such changes are only a matter of translation.
<i>Article 14</i>	The State shall powerfully conduct the Three-Revolution Red Flag Movement and other mass movements and accelerate the building of socialism to the maximum.	The State shall determinedly conduct the Three-Revolution Red Flag Movement and other mass movements so as to accelerate the building of socialism to the maximum.	Change from "powerfully" to "determinedly." No other changes.
<i>Article 15</i>	The DPRK shall champion the democratic, national rights of Koreans overseas and their rights recognized by the international law.	The Democratic People's Republic of Korea shall champion the democratic national rights of Koreans overseas and their rights recognized by international law as well	DPRK has changed to Democratic People's Republic of Korea. The comma after democratic has been removed, to say "democratic national rights" and the "interests" of Koreans

		as their interests.	overseas is also recognized now.
<i>Article 16</i>	The DPRK shall guarantee the legal rights and interests of foreigners in its region.	The Democratic People’s Republic of Korea shall guarantee the legal rights and interests of foreigners in its territory.	DPRK has changed to Democratic People’s Republic of Korea. Region has changed to “territory,” making it seem that this change has only been a matter of translation.
<i>Article 17</i>	Independence, peace, and solidarity are the basic ideals of the foreign policy and the principles of external activities of the DPRK. The State shall establish diplomatic as well as political, economic and cultural relations with all friendly countries, on principles of complete equality, independence, mutual respect, noninterference in each other’s affairs and mutual benefit. The State shall promote unity with the world public defending peoples who oppose all forms of aggression and interference and fight for their countries’ independence and national and class emancipation.	Independence, peace and friendship are the basic ideals of the foreign policy and the principles of the external activities of the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea. The State shall establish diplomatic as well as political, economic and cultural relations with all friendly countries, on the principles of complete equality, independence, mutual respect, non-interference in each other’s affairs and mutual benefit. The State shall promote unity with people all over the world who defend their independence, and resolutely support and encourage the struggles of all people who oppose all forms of aggression and interference and fight for their countries’ independence and national and class emancipation.	DPRK has changed to Democratic People’s Republic of Korea. Previously, the end of this section said “The State shall promote unity with the world public defending peoples who oppose all forms of aggression and interference and fight for their countries’ independence and national and class emancipation” now the state is still promoting unity with people across the world, but specifically with those who “defend their independence” and says the country with “resolutely support” (rather than defend), and “encourage the struggles” of those who “oppose all forms of aggression and interference and fight for their countries’ independence and national and class emancipation.” Some similarities, but important differences.
<i>Article 18</i>	The law of the DPRK reflects the wishes and	The law of the Democratic People’s	DPRK has changed to Democratic People’s

	<p>interests of the working people and is a basic instrument for State administration. Respect for the law and its strict adherence and execution is the duty of all institutions, enterprises, organizations and citizens. The State shall perfect the system of socialist law and promote the socialist law-abiding life.</p>	<p>Republic of Korea reflects the wishes and interests of the working people and is a basic instrument for State administration. Respect for the law and strict adherence to and execution of it is the duty of all institutions, enterprises, organizations and citizens. The State shall perfect the system of socialist law and promote the socialist law-abiding life.</p>	<p>Republic of Korea. No other changes seem to have been made, except minor word changes, implying that the “changes” have just been differing translations.</p>
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