

# Abstract

- **Title of the paper**

**Domestic Politics of FTAs and Negotiation Strategy for Economic Integration in East Asia: The Korean Perspective**

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- **Abstract**

In East Asia, one of the world's three major economic poles, economic integration is not proceeding so actively as in EU and NAFTA.

The steps toward East Asia Economic Integration have been under constant discussion during the annual China-Japan-Korea summits since 1999, but 'the Big Three' of East Asia, China, Japan, and Korea have not been able to launch inter-governmental negotiation for China-Japan-Korea FTA (hereafter 'CJK FTA') yet.

Recent Korean experience - Korea's FTA negotiations with Chile, Japan, and US - convinces us that the real obstacles of the CJK FTA are not the political,

cultural, economic and historical barriers existing in East Asia, but the domestic constraints, namely domestic politics, stemming from the fierce political reaction of 'the losers' in market opening.

In light of this, this paper aims to analyze the domestic politics of the CJK FTA and suggest the new negotiation strategy (Mid-FTA) implications for effective economic integration in East Asia.

- **JEL classification code**

F15 Economic Integration

- **Keywords**

China-Japan-Korea FTA, Mid-level FTA, two-level game, Domestic politics, FTA, comprehensive FTA, quality of the FTA

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