



South Korean Platform Labour Market and its Mismatch with Social Protection System

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4 pm to 5:30 pm (EST)**

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Korea's platform labour market expanded considerably in a short period of time and there is also a diversity of platform labour. The purpose of this talk is to understand the operation of the Korean platform labour market and how the forms for work mismatch with Korean social security system. The study categorizes platform companies and platform labour in the Korean platform labour market, and examines differences and commonalities in their labour processes through case studies on delivery platforms, domestic service platforms, and freelance platforms. The differences according to the type of platform labour are as follows. First, the delivery platform was mainly mediated by four-way relations, and the domestic services and freelance platforms by three-way relationships. Second, the intensity of labour control and involvement of platform labour of platform companies was strong in the order of delivery platform, house service platform and freelance platform. Third, the differences in social security experiences and needs were mainly found in industrial accident insurance. The analysis confirms that the mismatch between platform labour and social security system does not only come from the vague employment relationship of platform workers, but rather the differences among the types of platform work need to be considered in discussing social security reform to solve the mismatch problem.

Prof. Sophia Seung-Yoon Lee received her DPhil (PhD) in Social Policy from the University of Oxford (UK) with her thesis on a comparative study of East Asian welfare states and nonstandard workers. Her research interests are East Asian welfare state and labour markets, precarious work, basic income and institutionalism.

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