# The Effect of Korea-Japan Relations on Trade and The Global Economic Order

**KEI-KITA Joint Seminar** 

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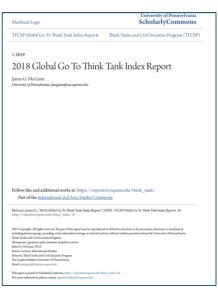
October 16, 2019





# **About ITIF**

- The world's leading science and technology policy think tank.
- Supports policies driving global, innovation-based economic growth.
- Focuses on a host of issues at the intersection of technology innovation and public policy across several sectors:
  - Innovation and competitiveness
  - IT and data
  - Telecommunications
  - Trade and globalization
  - Clean energy, manufacturing, life sciences, and ag biotech





# Semiconductors Are A Uniquely Integrated Global Industry

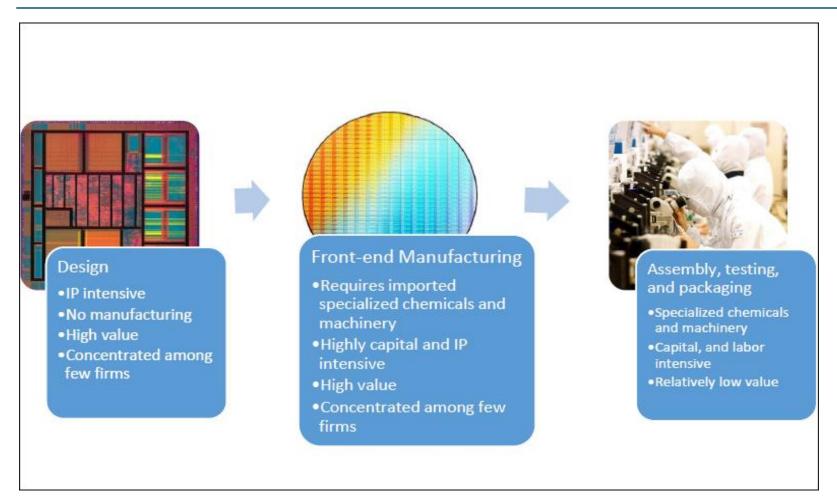
#### Beyond Borders: Semiconductors are a Uniquely Global Industry

Typical semiconductor production process spans multiple countries: 4+ Countries, 4+ States, 3+ trips around the world, 25,000 miles travelled, 100 days TPT, 12 days in transit



Source: Nathan Associates, "Beyond Borders: The Global Semiconductor Global Value Chain"

# Stylized Semiconductor Production Process



Office of Industries Working Paper ID-062

#### The South Korea-Japan Trade **Dispute in Context:** Semiconductor Manufacturing, **Chemicals, and Concentrated Supply Chains**

Samuel M. Goodman, Dan Kim and John VerWey

announced export control actions have introduced supply chain risks for semiconductor and electronics manufacturers, particularly in Japan and Korea. This paper provides context and examines the potential implications of such risks. We identify the factors behind Japan's competitiveness in the semiconduc materials and equipment industries, focusing on specialized chemicals, and South Korea's competiveness in semiconductor manufacturing. We explore the short and long-term implicate sustained supply chain risks for this particular supply chain and find that there are strong supplier-customer relationships between materials and equipment suppliers and semiconductor manufacturer due to specialization and high fixed costs throughout the supply chain. In the short-term, Japanese chemical providers and Korean semiconductor producers face potential disruptions in their production and exports, though the magnitude of potential losses for Korean chipmakers are likely much larger than Japanese chemicals suppliers. In the lone-term, these actions create incentives for Korean chipmakers to significantly lessen their sourcing from Japanese suppliers, not only in specialized chemicals, but throughout the entire semiconductor supply chain.

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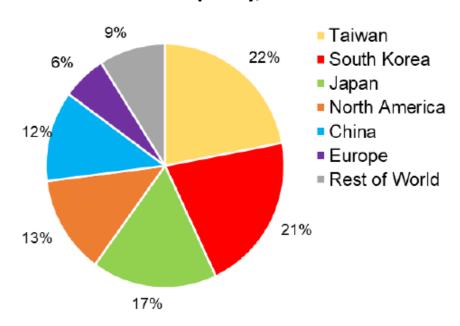
# What's At Stake For Korea?

- Korea's semiconductor industry has second-most overall fabrication capacity.
- Samsung and SK Hynix are world's 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> largest semiconductor suppliers.

#### **Share of Semiconductor Integrated Design Manufacturers**

# 2%\_1% United States South Korea Japan Europe Taiwan Others

#### **Total Global Wafer Capacity, December 2018**



# What's At Stake For Korea?

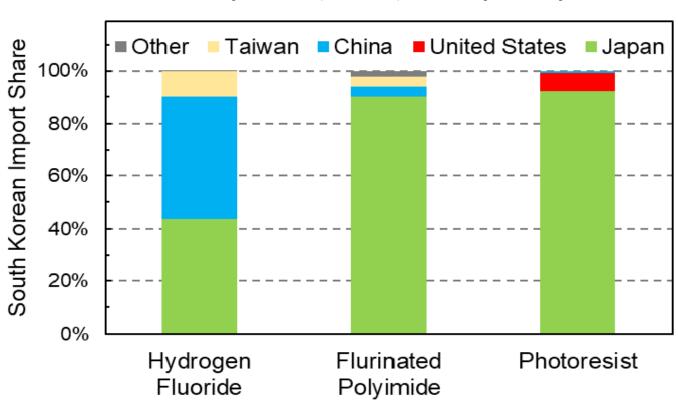
- Semiconductors and related components account for 30% of Korean exports.
- In 2018, semiconductors accounted for 92% of Korean export growth.
- Semiconductors accounted for 80% of Korea's current account surplus in 2017-2018.
- Downside GDP risk of ongoing stalemate = 2 to 2.6% of Korean GDP.



# What's The Issue?

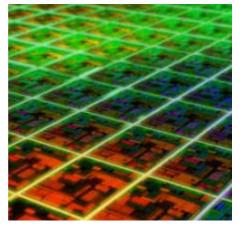
- Japan has imposed export controls on three chemical inputs critical to semiconductor production.
- Japan produces 90% of world's supply of fluorinated polyimide and photoresists.
- Japan accounts for 70% of global production of hydrogen fluoride.

# Sources of Semiconductor-related Chemicals Imports for Korea, by source (% Total), January to May 2019



### **Photoresists**

- Establish the pattern upon which semiconductor micro-circuitry is built.
- 90% of Korean photoresist imports in 2018 originated from Japan.
- Few alternative international suppliers, available stockpiles would last only 3-6 months.



# Korean Dependence on Japanese Supply

- On average, Korea imports \$33.6 million of restricted chemicals monthly.
- But Korea exports \$8.4 billion of semiconductors and parts depending on those chemicals.
- Meaning Korean export loss exposure is 250 times greater that of Japan's chemical-makers.

Export		Monthly	Quarterly
Code	Product description	average	average
854231	Processors And Controllers, Electronic Integrated Circuits	\$1,746.7	\$5,240.1
854232	Memories, Electronic Integrated Circuits	\$5,525.0	\$16,575.0
854233	Amplifiers, Electronic Integrated Circuits	\$4.5	\$13.5
854239	Electronic Integrated Circuits, Nesoi	\$381.4	\$1,144.1
854290	Parts For Electronic Integrated Circuits And Microassemblies	\$21.1	\$63.2
(a)	Display parts	\$752.9	\$2,258.6
	Total	\$8,431.5	\$25,294.5

# Downstream Supply Chain Impacts

• Export restrictions not only impact Korea's electronics manufacturers, but all downstream industries that depend on integrated circuits, in Korea & abroad.















Source: Stephen J. Ezell, "How The Information Technology Agreement (ITA) Bolsters Economic Growth in Nations"

# International Impacts

- Short-term: TSMC (Taiwan) and Intel (U.S.) likely beneficiaries of dispute.
- Long-term: "These actions create incentives for Korean chipmakers to significantly lessen their sourcing from Japanese suppliers, not only in specialized chemicals, but throughout the entire semiconductor supply chain." Goodman, Kim, VerWey
- China unlikely to capitalize in short-term, but adds impetus to China's ambition for autarkic production of semiconductor sector.
- Amicable resolution needed to maintain confidence in globalization of both semiconductor supply chains and liberalized market-based trade.

Sources: Samuel M. Goodman, Dan Kim, and John VerWey, U.S. ITC, "The South Korea-Japan Trade Dispute in Context: Semiconductor Manufacturing, Chemicals, and Concentrated Supply Chains" ITIF, "Stopping China's Mercantilism: A Doctrine of Constructive, Alliance-Backed Confrontation"

# **Thank You!**

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