

Dear Editor-in-Chief, Program Director, and Editorial/Research Team,

On behalf of the Democratic Party of Korea, I am writing to express our grave concern regarding the recent program, Inside Südkorea – USA, China und Nordkorea, which was posted on February 25 in ZDF's media library. We understand this same program is also scheduled to air on March 6 at 9:30 AM (CET) via Phoenix TV. While we respect journalistic freedom, we believe the broadcast contained serious inaccuracies and lacked balanced representation of the political situation in the Republic of Korea. Our concerns are as follows:

1. Unsubstantiated Election Fraud Allegations

The segment suggests that the current National Assembly was formed through a possibly fraudulent election. Korea's National Election Commission has a long-standing record of conducting elections fairly, with transparent oversight. There is no credible evidence to support the far-reaching claims presented in the program.

The Democratic Party of Korea reaffirms the integrity and transparency of our nation's electoral system, which is globally recognized as free and fair. We firmly reject any unfounded allegations that cast doubt on this credibility.

2. Portrayal of the Pro-Impeachment Camp as Foreign-Influenced

The repeated insinuation that pro-impeachment voices in Korea are "pro-China" or "pro-North Korea" is both misleading and harmful. The impeachment question centers on constitutional accountability—not on external influences. Such mischaracterizations do a disservice to the complexity of Korea's domestic political climate.

3. Alleged Majority Support for President Yoon

The claim that the majority of Koreans have rallied behind President Yoon Seok-youl does not align with multiple reputable opinion polls. In fact, most credible survey data indicate significant public opposition to the declaration of martial law and broad support for impeachment proceedings.

4. Reliance on Extreme Perspectives

We are especially concerned that the broadcast devoted disproportionate coverage to extremist or fringe figures, presenting their views as though they reflected mainstream sentiment. Many legitimate, centrist perspectives—including those from civil society, legal experts, and the broader Korean public—went unrepresented.

While we do not wish to intervene in the editorial direction of your media outlets, it is crucial to correct the record to maintain public trust. The spread of baseless claims—particularly those suggesting foreign interference or election fraud—undermines our democracy and distracts from more pressing national priorities. The Democratic Party of Korea will continue to safeguard the pillars of our democracy, uphold our constitutional processes, and stand by the strength of our institutions.

In light of these points, we respectfully request that ZDF review and consider issuing a clarification or correction regarding these inaccuracies. We welcome the opportunity to provide additional information, verified sources, and interviews that could present a more accurate picture. Our aim is not to restrict journalistic freedom, but to ensure fair and balanced reporting that upholds the values of truth and objectivity.

Thank you for your attention to this matter. We look forward to your response and stand ready to discuss these concerns further.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Sunwoo Kang', written in a cursive style.

Sunwoo Kang,

21st-22nd Member of National Assembly

Chairperson, International Committee of Democratic Party