

South Korea Pledges Peace-Driven Growth And Unity In 2026



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Seoul, Jan. 1, 2026 – South Korean President Lee Jae-myung vowed a new era of "sweeping growth and progress in all fields" in his New Year's address on Thursday, underscoring the government's commitment to stable development anchored in peace and security.

"Solid peace is another word for growth, and strong security is the driving force of prosperity,"

President Lee said, emphasizing that his administration will intensify efforts to promote peace

and stability in the region. In outlining his vision for 2026, he framed economic growth and social

progress as inseparable from diplomatic cooperation and peaceful coexistence. (China.org.cn) President Lee highlighted that the year ahead should be one of "great national leap and transformation," with policies aimed at balanced development across politics, economy, society, culture, diplomacy, and security. He stressed that the benefits of growth should be broadly shared, ensuring prosperity reaches all citizens, not just a select few. (The Korea Times) Lee's message comes amid ongoing global challenges, including economic pressures and geopolitical uncertainties. His speech tied sustainable growth to regional peace, portraying stability on the Korean Peninsula as essential to long-term national progress. (China.org.cn) World leaders also delivered New Year messages focused on unity and resilience, emphasizing cooperation, socioeconomic recovery, and shared aspirations for peace. The overarching theme was one of optimism and collective responsibility as nations enter 2026 seeking hope, innovation, and stronger ties.