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Born in South Korea, Professor Kim studied sociology at Korea University and at Bremen University and received his PhD at Bielefeld University. His scientific work centres on theory of the welfare state, old age income security system and East Asian Welfare State. Before coming to Korea University, he taught at Bielefeld University in Germany and at Kyung-Sang National University in South Korea. He published books and articles, including "Revisiting the Role of Bureaucrats in Pension Policy-making: The Case of South Korea," in 2014 (*Government and Opposition* 49(2): 264-289, with Choi, Y.J.), "Emergence of New Welfare States in East Asia? Domestic Social Changes and the Impact of "Welfare Internationalism" in South Korea and Taiwan (1945–2012), in 2013 (*International Journal of Social Quality* 3(2): 106-124, with Shi, Shih-Jiunn); " East Asian approaches of activation: the politics of labor market policies in South Korea and Taiwan (Policy and Society, forthcoming), and other articles.