

ABSTRACT

This study examines two main issues: the legality of North Korea's military intervention under the 2024 Treaty on Comprehensive Strategic Partnership and the legal status of North Korean military personnel deployed in the Kursk Region. This study employs a normative legal research method with a literature review approach. The analysis is conducted based on the 1945 United Nations Charter, 1969 Vienna Convention on the Law of Treaties, 1949 Geneva Conventions, and 1977 Additional Protocol I. The findings indicate that North Korea's military intervention in the Kursk Region can be legally justified. The intervention does not violate the principle of non-intervention because it falls within the category of Intervention by Invitation and self-defense, as North Korea obtained formal and explicit consent from Russia to operate within Russian sovereign territory in response to an attack by Ukraine. Furthermore, the Mutual Defense Pact serving as the legal basis for the troop deployment complied with the formal requirements stipulated under the 1969 Vienna Convention on the Law of Treaties. From *Jus in bello*, North Korean military personnel deployed in the Kursk Region are classified as lawful combatants under Article 4A (2) of the Third Geneva Convention of 1949, as they operate under responsible command, carry arms openly, and consistently wear clearly identifiable Russian military uniforms. If captured by Ukrainian forces, these personnel are entitled to prisoner-of-war status and the full range of protections under international humanitarian law.

Keywords: North Korea–Russia Intervention, Combatant, Prisoner-of-War Status, Treaty on Comprehensive Strategic Partnership 2024, Kursk Region.