



# Hyo Jeong KO

Partner

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Ms. Hyo Jeong Ko is a partner in the firm's M&A Group. Her day-to-day work consists of negotiating transaction terms, drafting and revising documents, performing due diligence, overseeing compliance with applicable laws, and providing the legal opinion on PMI. She is ready to assist clients with navigating issues that may arise in M&A transactions. She also advises clients on corporate law matters, including antitrust and labor issues.

Ms. Ko received B.A. summa cum laude in Political Science and International Relations, Philosophy, and Economics from Seoul National University in 2013 while taking classes at George Washington University as an exchange student for the 2011 Fall semester. She received her J.D. Cum Laude from Seoul National University in 2016 with participating in a summer school program conducted by the University of Tokyo in 2013. She also served as an editor of two law reviews in the law school: the SNU Law Review and the SNU Human rights Law Review.

She participated in the "English for Lawyers Program" by American University, Washington College of Law, in July 2019.

## Education

|           |                                                                                                  |
|-----------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 2022-2023 | Harvard Law School (LL.M.)                                                                       |
| 2021      | Seoul National University, Graduate School of Law (Ph.D., coursework completed, in Labor law)    |
| 2016      | Seoul National University, Graduate School of Law (J.D., <i>cum laude</i> )                      |
| 2013      | Seoul National University (B.A. in Political Science and International Relations, Philosophy and |

Economics, *summa cum laude*)

## Experience

2016-Present JIPYONG LLC

2024 Adjunct Assistant Professor, Seoul National University Law School

## Notable Achievements

### [M&A]

- Advised SK Inc. on its acquisition of a 51% stake in LG Siltron from LG Corp.
- Represented Hyundai Mipo Dockyard Co., Ltd. in the sale of its stake in Hi Investment & Securities to DGB Financial Group
- Advised SM Entertainment on its acquisition of a stake in music label Million Market
- Advised the creditors including the Korea Development Bank, etc. on the sale of the management rights of KG Dongbu Steel
- Advised SK Trading International and SK Energy on acquisition of Myanmar Petroleum Company
- Advised Korea Development Bank on sale of stake in 90 non-financial firms to UAMCO
- Advised SK Chemical on execution of a business transfer agreement with Hahn & Company for transfer of the bioenergy business
- Provided strategic counsel to SoCar in the acquisition of a platform-based company
- Advised Hanil Holdings on the sale of Hanil Networks to UBASE
- Represented Socius Well to Sea Investment in the sale of Motrol Co., Ltd. to Doosan Bobcat

### [Capital Raising]

- Advised MUSICOW, the platform for fractional investment in music copyrights, on attracting investment from STIC Investment
- Advised a group of 11 investors—including Naver, Gafina B.V., Mirae Asset-Naver Asia Growth Fund, and STIC Investments—on their investment in Indonesian grocery delivery platform HappyFresh
- Advised ATU Culture Tech M&A Private Equity Fund on its acquisition of new shares in a performance planning company
- Provided legal advice on E-Land Group's issuance of perpetual bonds
- Represented Pottery, a men's fashion brand, in attracting investment

### [Corporate Governance Restructuring]

- Advised Hanil Cement on the merger with Hanil Hyundai Cement
- Represented Hanwha Aerospace Co., Ltd. in the transfer of its laser business unit to Hanwha Systems Co., Ltd.
- Advised major Korean corporations and listed companies on corporate governance restructuring, including

mergers, spin-offs, spin-off mergers, comprehensive share exchanges, and in-kind contributions

- Advised foreign investors on establishing Korean subsidiaries and joint ventures

#### [Consulting]

- Provided compliance consulting on workplace harassment prevention
- Advised corporate clients on compliance with the Serious Accidents Punishment Act, including internal regulation design, and legal risk mitigation strategies

## Honors and Recognitions

|      |                                                                                                         |
|------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 2026 | Leading Lawyer in Corporate and M&A Practice, Legal Times                                               |
| 2026 | Rising Star in Corporate and M&A Practice, Legal Times                                                  |
| 2014 | 1st Prize Winner at 2014 GA-IN Mock Trial Competition(civil law part) sponsored by Korean Supreme Court |
| 2012 | 1st Prize Winner at 2012 Mock Fair Trade Commission sponsored by Korean Fair Trade Commission           |

## Speaking Engagements and Publications

#### [Research Papers]

|      |                                                                                                |
|------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 2019 | 2019 Guidebook on Business in Myanmar, Korea SMEs and Startups Agency                          |
| 2018 | Study on Plan for Conversion to Good Jobs (joint researcher), Korea Electric Power Corporation |
| 2018 | Research Report on Intellectual Property Laws of Myanmar, Korean Embassy in Myanmar            |

#### [Column]

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|------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 2026 | M&A Guide 2026: South Korea, IFLR1000                                                                              |
| 2026 | [Deal Breaker] Considerations for Foreign Merger Filings, Bloter                                                   |
| 2025 | [Deal Breaker]② Key Considerations in Carve-out Transactions, Bloter                                               |
| 2025 | [SME Prism] The Meaning and Practical Considerations of Provisions on No Assignment, SME News                      |
| 2025 | [Deal Breaker] ① Considerations for Carve-Out Transactions, Numbers                                                |
| 2025 | [Deal Breaker] Technology Security and Cross-Border M&A, Numbers                                                   |
| 2025 | [SME PRISM] Why Each Interview Question Requires Careful Consideration, SME News                                   |
| 2025 | [Deal Breaker] Deteriorating Performance of M&A Target Companies and MAC Clauses, Numbers                          |
| 2025 | Fiduciary duties to shareholders in South Korea: Reform proposals, Asia Business Law Journal                       |
| 2025 | [Corporate] A Turning Point in Treasury Stock System: Discussion and Impact of Mandatory Cancellation, Legal Times |
| 2025 | [SME PRISM] Trade Secrets Leaked via Internet Posts: Countermeasure Plan, SME News                                 |
| 2025 | [Deal Breaker] Confirmation of Shareholders of Target Companies, Numbers                                           |
| 2025 | [Deal Breaker] Legal Due Diligence in M&A and the Possibility of Criminal Liability, Numbers                       |
| 2025 | [SME PRISM] SMEs Also Subject to Regulation on Consignment Transactions under the Win-Win                          |

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|------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|      | Act, SME News                                                                                                     |
| 2025 | [Deal Breaker] Review of 2024: Various Changes in M&A-Related Systems, Numbers                                    |
| 2024 | [Deal Breaker] Considerations for Investor Protection Systems Upon Acquiring Listed Shares <sup>②</sup> , Numbers |
| 2024 | [Deal Breaker] Considerations for Investor Protection Systems Upon Acquiring Listed Shares <sup>①</sup> , Numbers |
| 2024 | [SME PRISM] Precautions for Receiving Startup Support, SME News                                                   |
| 2024 | [Deal Breaker] Considerations When Entering into Confidentiality Agreements in M&A Transactions, Numbers          |
| 2024 | [SME PRISM] E-commerce SMEs: Caution Regarding Terms and Processing of Personal Information, SME News             |
| 2024 | [Deal Breaker] Foreign Investment Attraction and Restricted Business Sectors, Numbers                             |
| 2024 | [Deal Breaker] Issues of Loss of SME and Venture Status Due to Acquisition by Large Corporations, Numbers         |
| 2024 | [SME PRISM] Trademark Use Among Affiliates and Payment of Fees, SME News                                          |
| 2024 | [Corporate] Expansion of Stock-Linked Compensation for Employees, Legal Times                                     |
| 2024 | [SME PRISM] Precautions Regarding Factory Registration, SME News                                                  |

## Bar Admissions & Qualifications

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| 2016 | Korea    |
| 2026 | New York |

## Languages

Korean / English / Japanese