

# How The Information Underground Is Transforming Closed Society



Cambridge Review of International Affairs

Routledge  
Taylor & Francis Group

ISSN: 0955-7571 (Print) 1474-449X (Online) Journal homepage: <http://www.tandfonline.com/loi/ccam20>

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## North Korea's hidden revolution: how the information underground is transforming a closed society

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To cite this article: Roland Bleiker (2018): North Korea's hidden revolution: how the information underground is transforming a closed society, Cambridge Review of International Affairs, DOI: 10.1080/09557571.2018.1446708

To link to this article: <https://doi.org/10.1080/09557571.2018.1446708>

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 Published online: 12 Mar 2018.

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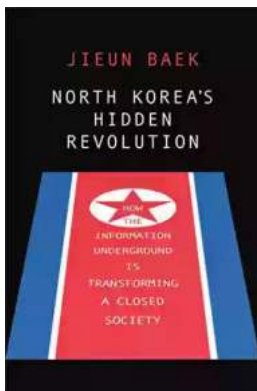
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In a world where dictatorial regimes try to control every aspect of their citizens' lives, one weapon has emerged as a powerful tool for change: the Information Underground. This underground network of individuals, activists, and tech-savvy

individuals is using the power of information to challenge the status quo and transform closed societies.

The Information Underground is a concept that refers to the movement of knowledge, ideas, and information through channels that operate outside of governmental control. These channels include social media platforms, encrypted messaging services, secret forums, and even physical networks built by individuals who share a common goal: to empower the people with information that their governments are trying to suppress.



## North Korea's Hidden Revolution: How the Information Underground Is Transforming a Closed Society by Jieun Baek(Kindle Edition)

★★★★☆ 4.5 out of 5

Language : English  
File size : 1236 KB  
Text-to-Speech : Enabled  
Screen Reader : Supported  
Enhanced typesetting : Enabled  
Word Wise : Enabled  
Print length : 309 pages  
Lending : Enabled



One key aspect of the Information Underground is its ability to expose the truth. In closed societies, where state-controlled media outlets propagate government propaganda, the underground provides an alternative source of information. Citizen journalists, often risking their own safety, capture videos and photos of protests and human rights violations, which then make their way to the underground channels. From there, the information spreads rapidly, reaching a

global audience and putting pressure on the closed society's government to address the issues at hand.

The underground also plays a crucial role in organizing and mobilizing opposition movements. Through encrypted messaging services, activists can communicate securely and coordinate their efforts. This allows them to strategize, plan protests, and share vital information without fear of surveillance or repercussion. The closed society's government may have control over traditional means of communication, but the underground enables activists to stay one step ahead, evading censorship and repression.

Furthermore, the Information Underground provides a platform for like-minded individuals to connect and exchange ideas. Closed societies often isolate their citizens from global trends, making it difficult for them to stay informed or engage in discussions on a variety of topics. The underground fills this gap, offering spaces where individuals can freely express their opinions, debate, and acquire knowledge on a range of subjects.



But how does the Information Underground continue to evolve and thrive despite constant efforts by closed societies to suppress it? The answer lies in its decentralized nature. The underground is not a singular, centralized entity that can be shut down with the flip of a switch. Instead, it is a network of networks, built on shared values and fueled by the determination of its participants.

Moreover, the Information Underground adapts to new technologies and methodologies. As governments tighten their grip on traditional communication channels, the underground finds new ways to use emerging technologies to its advantage. For example, when one platform gets blocked, another emerges. When governments crack down on encryption, individuals find creative ways to protect their messages and information.

## **Examples of the Information Underground in Action**

The power of the Information Underground can be seen in numerous instances throughout history. For instance, during the Arab Spring uprisings, social media platforms played a crucial role in organizing mass protests and exposing government brutality. Activists used platforms like Facebook and Twitter to share information and coordinate actions, leading to unprecedented demonstrations and demands for change.

In another example, brave citizen journalists in North Korea risk their lives to capture images and videos of everyday life under a repressive regime. They smuggle this valuable information out of the country using various underground networks and then share it with the world, shedding light on the hardships faced by the North Korean people.

The Information Underground has also been instrumental in supporting human rights campaigns. From fighting for LGBTQ+ equality in closed societies to advocating for women's rights, the underground provides a platform for marginalized voices that would otherwise be silenced. By sharing stories and raising awareness, these campaigns have gained global support, putting pressure on closed societies to address the injustices they perpetrate.

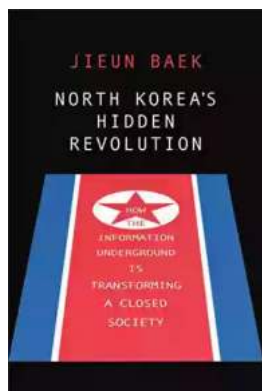
## **The Future of the Information Underground**

As technology continues to advance and governments attempt to tighten their control, the future of the Information Underground remains uncertain. However, one thing is clear: the human desire for freedom and access to information is an unstoppable force.

The Information Underground will continue to adapt, innovate, and find new ways to challenge closed societies and empower their citizens. It will remain an

influential tool for fostering change, connecting individuals, and undermining authoritarian regimes' efforts to maintain control.

, the Information Underground is revolutionizing closed societies by offering a platform for truth, organizing opposition movements, and connecting like-minded individuals. Despite the challenges it faces, the underground continues to expand and shape the world we live in. It is a testament to the power of information and the resilience of those who believe in its potential to create a more open, just, and connected society for all.



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“A crisp, dramatic examination of how technology and human ingenuity are undermining North Korea’s secretive dictatorship.”—Kirkus Reviews

One of the least understood countries in the world, North Korea has long been known for its repressive regime. Yet it is far from being an impenetrable black box. Media flows covertly into the country, and fault lines are appearing in the

government's sealed informational borders.

Drawing on deeply personal interviews with North Korean defectors from all walks of life, ranging from propaganda artists to diplomats, Jieun Baek tells the story of North Korea's information underground—the network of citizens who take extraordinary risks by circulating illicit content such as foreign films, television shows, soap operas, books, and encyclopedias. By fostering an awareness of life outside North Korea and enhancing cultural knowledge, the materials these citizens disseminate are affecting the social and political consciousness of a people, as well as their everyday lives.

“A fine primer on the country, based on extensive interviews with defectors.”—  
Times Literary Supplement

“A fascinating book.”—The New York Times

“[A] timely and cogent book.”—Los Angeles Review of Books

“A fascinating and intelligent overview of the ways that information is liberating North Koreans' minds.”—Robert S. Boynton, author of *The Invitation-Only Zone: The True Story of North Korea's Abduction Project*

“A fascinating, important, and vivid account of how unofficial information is increasingly seeping into the North and chipping away at the regime's myths—and hence its control of North Korean society.”—Sue Mi Terry, former CIA analyst and senior research scholar at the Weatherhead East Asia Institute, Columbia University



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