



Interview with **Mr Hyunho Kim** (Republic of Korea), the recipient of the Richard Charvet Scholarship for the best student specializing in Maritime Law and Policy.

**1. Tell us where you grew up and about your family.**

*"I was born and raised in Seoul, South Korea. After joining the Korean Register (KR), a member of the International Association of Classification Societies (IACS), the organization relocated its headquarters from Daejeon to Busan in 2012. Since then, I have been living in Busan, a beautiful coastal city and a major hub for South Korea's maritime industry, encompassing shipbuilding, shipping, and ship finance."*

*I currently live in Busan with my wife and son. My family accompanied me during my studies at the World Maritime University (WMU) in Malmö, Sweden. Their unwavering support was crucial in helping me successfully complete my MSc program.”*

## **2. Why did you choose the education you did?**

*“As an administrative staff member at KR, I had many opportunities to work with colleagues specializing in ship surveys and inspections, as well as research and development in the maritime field. However, I felt that I lacked opportunities to systematically understand and learn about the maritime industry.*

*With a strong desire to grow as a maritime professional, I believed it was critical to gain a deep understanding of the legal and policy frameworks that govern the global maritime industry. This aspiration motivated me to pursue the Maritime Law and Policy (MLP) specialization at WMU.”*

## **3. Tell us about your current work and position.**

*“I am currently working as a manager in the HR team at KR. Over the years, I have gained valuable experience in various departments, including Strategy, Planning, and Audit, which has allowed me to be involved in KR's core business.*

*In my current role, I am involved in the design and implementation of HR policies such as recruitment, evaluation, promotion and compensation. My focus is on attracting, developing and retaining the technical and research talent that forms the backbone of KR.”*

## **4. What made you decide to study at WMU?**

*WMU's global perspective on maritime issues and its emphasis on international collaboration appealed to me.*

*In particular, WMU's strong ties with the International Maritime Organization (IMO), its unique visiting professors program that brings in world-renowned maritime experts, and its diverse and multicultural student body were key factors in my decision to study there.*

## **5. How did you react to receiving the Richard Charvet Prize?**

*“When I heard the news, I was both surprised and overjoyed, as I had not expected to receive such a prestigious award. My wife, who attended the graduation ceremony, was so moved that she shed tears of joy.*

*This award is not only a personal achievement, but also a tribute to the professors who guided me at WMU, my MLP classmates, and my family who supported me throughout this journey.”*

## **6. What future ambitions and goals do you have?**

*“As a member of KR, I would like to continue contributing to maritime safety, environmental protection and sustainable development of the maritime industry. The knowledge and experience I have gained at WMU, particularly in maritime law and policy, will enable me to tackle complex challenges and develop innovative solutions.*

*In addition, I would like to mentor and support colleagues who, like me, start their careers in administrative roles but aspire to become maritime professionals. I believe this is in the spirit of the Richard Charvet Prize - "Trade and honest friendship with all". By encouraging the next generation of maritime professionals, I hope to carry on the values embodied by this award.*

*Once again, I would like to express my sincere gratitude to the Worshipful Company of World Traders and the selection committee for this incredible recognition.”*