

## Flash Note 04/01/2018

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### When someone tells you that Trump is not ready to govern

The situation of tension on the Korean peninsula seems to be an ideal outcome for Washington, which means that despite all the noise, the risk of a war is actually receding (At the end of the day, who wants to end an optimal situation?)

Skeptical about what I've just said? Consider this. A key Trump theme has been that US allies should pay their "fair share" for collective security arrangements. Well. It seems now that everybody will pay its part.

Trump seems to cleverly manage all this war noise in the interest of the USA. Not for nothing, Trump sees himself as a dealmaker "potentially using theatrics, to secure his objectives.

Now consider these observations in light of the president's recent Asia trip. Leading up to the visit, a rebound in tensions helped Trump to say to the Japanese and Koreans "how many Raytheon missile systems and Lockheed planes should I put you down for?" Well. Trump came back from Asia with a bulging order book for US weapons

The second thing he did was to say to the Chinese "You guys were supposed to deal with the North Korean threat but you haven't. So what can you give me instead?" The result was Financial deregulation. Not bad for US corporations.

It is not that I have any special sympathy but, when someone tells you that Trump is not ready to govern the nation, ask him who could do it better.

Best regards