The Widespread Use of Torture in Kyrgyzstan
Part of IERES's Visiting Scholar Roundtable Series

with

Sardar Bagishbekov
Executive Director, Golos Svobody, Kyrgyzstan

Torture in Kyrgyzstan stems from a combination of deficiencies in legislation, the policies and practices of the Interior Ministry, Prosecutor’s office and judiciary, and the public's mentality of acceptance. The speaker will present a short video and describe the conditions of temporary and pretrial detention facilities in Kyrgyzstan from the perspective of civic oversight. Additionally, he will examine the steps taken by the Kyrgyz government and agencies to combat torture and impunity.

Sardar Bagishbekov is Executive Director of the Kyrgyzstani human rights NGO "Golos Svobody" (Voice of Freedom - www.vof.kg). The organization seeks to protect individuals from torture and illegal detention, monitor police detention and pretrial detention facilities, and promote the rights of marginal groups on the national and international levels. Bagishbekov previously served as the Chairperson of the Association of Young Lawyers in Kyrgyzstan and worked with the UNHCR project on refugees. Additionally, he has worked for the Freedom House Human Rights Defender Support Project in Kyrgyzstan and as a regional coordinator for the Central Asian anti-torture network. He has published on topics including the universality of human rights and freedom from violence and torture in Kyrgyzstan.

Thursday, October 24, 2013
4:00 - 5:00 pm
Voesar Conference Room
1957 E Street NW, Suite 412
Please RSVP at http://go.gwu.edu/Bagishbekov.

This event is on the record.