Kazakhstan, Immigration and National Security: Threat or Promise?

with

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The challenges that arise from increased immigration are significant and Kazakhstan, a young and developing country, is just beginning to deal with this issue. In the next three years, more than sixty thousand immigrants are likely to come to Kazakhstan, mainly seeking jobs that require physical labor. The majority of immigrants move to the country’s two major cities, Almaty and Astana. An influx of immigrants has caused many to fear the spread of disease, increased crime, drug trafficking, and unemployment. The economic and social impacts of immigration, combined with escalating interethnic conflict around the borders with Uzbekistan and Kyrgyzstan, threaten national security. Current legislation on immigration is lacking or ambiguous at best and the state is inefficient in providing aid to immigrants. Other complications include corruption and dishonesty among local immigration representatives.

Dr. Raushan Nauryzbayeva holds a Ph.D. in law and is associate professor at Kunaev University. She is also an executive director of the Development of Civil Society, a public foundation that implements projects on human rights, legal projects on minority rights/refugees, and civic education in Kazakhstan. She is president of the Alumni Research Association (ARA), a network of individuals who have held fellowships with such institutions as IREX and the Fulbright programs. Her areas of interest and expertise include immigration, national security and human rights issues. She is the author of several books on rule of law, integrating Kazakhstan into the international legal order, the penitentiary system and anti-discrimination law.

Friday, August 26, 2011
3:00-4:00
Voesar Conference Room
1957 E Street, NW, Suite 412
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This event is on the record.