

# Trafficking in Persons in Southeast Asia and the Sexual and Economic Exploitation of Young People in Japan

\*Casino buildings along the Mekong River in Laos, as seen from Thailand, where crimes such as forced prostitution and phone fraud are reportedly committed."

Date & Time: **June 7(Saturday) 14:00-16:00**

\*Zoom opens at 13:30

\*Japanese/English interpretation available

Human trafficking constantly evolves to meet the demands of criminals.

However, the core structure – exploiting the vulnerable for profit – remains unchanged.

In the late 1980s and early 1990s, women from the Philippines and Thailand were trafficked into Japan's sex industry. More recently, trafficking patterns have shifted, with cases of special fraud and sexual exploitation flowing back from Japan to Southeast Asia.

This seminar will examine the current state of human trafficking in Thailand and neighboring Southeast Asian countries (Myanmar, Laos, Indonesia, etc.) and explore the vulnerabilities of young Japanese individuals to various forms of exploitation, both sexual and economic. We will also highlight the efforts of civil society groups combating these issues and discuss the barriers that prevent women and girls from speaking out. We look forward to your participation.

## PROGRAM

**Opening Address and Prayer:**

**Bp. Shinzo Moriyama**

(Bishop in Charge of the Catholic Commission of Japan for Migrants, Refugees and People on the Move)

**Lecture and Q&A :**

**Ms. Yuriko Saito**

(Board Member, Colabo)

**Closing Remark and Prayer:**

**Sr. Filo Shizue Hirota**

(Chairperson, Talitha Kum Japan)



**Ms. Yuriko Saito**

Ms. Saito has been a specially appointed professor in the International Relations Department at Daito Bunka University since 2020, following positions at Keisen University and Meiji Gakuin University. She serves as a board member of Colabo, a member of the International Projects Committee of Yokohama YMCA, and a third-party evaluation member of the JICA Ogata Research Institute. Her research focuses on human trafficking (particularly in Thailand, the Mekong region, and Japan), area studies (Thailand), gender, migration studies (Thai communities in Japan), and support practices.



## Registration Required.

Click the link below or scan the QR code to register.

A Zoom link will be sent via email.

<https://forms.gle/nLKhxGWJcXsSQqhw4A>

CONTACT

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