

31, Oct, 2017, Okinawa times

1. U.S. military bases violates Human Rights, says Italian lawyer: lecture today, Naha



Italian lawyer Micol Savia, who made efforts to the Declaration on the Right to Peace adopted by the United Nations General Assembly 2016, gave media interviews in Naha, on her first visit to Okinawa, Oct.30, 2017.

Approaching the issues about American military bases stationed in Europe, she appealed that American military bases caused military tension with other countries there and existing of the bases violates Human Rights.

Her lecture, titled ‘American Military Bases in the world and Right to Peace: Consideration of Status of Forces Agreement’, will be held at Gender Equality Center in the city, Oct.31, 6:40 p.m. The organizer is the network of Kyuuujyou-no-kai-Okinawa.

She is a member of International Association of Democratic Lawyers; IADL which is an international NGO established with the purpose of achieving world peace or protecting human rights by the lawyers from various parts of the world. And she also contributed to the Declaration on the Rights to Peace (2016) by addressing that peace is not merely ‘the absence of war’, but ‘the right’ claimed by people.

According to her, American bases in Italy deploy nuclear weapons, so at a time when tensions are rising, people living near the bases are to be under threat of attack as targets. Moreover she pointed, “Okinawa is also facing the same kind of threat caused as the result of unprecedented tension between the United States and North Korea. So it should be recognized its threat.”

And she criticized Italy-U.S. Status of Forces Agreement as a problem because its content is not disclosed to the people. But when there were many casualties in 1998 U.S. military aircraft crash, Italian authorities seized and investigated the aircraft, she said.

She pointed out, “Each Status of Forces Agreement in many countries is a sovereignty issue and is need to be fit with the Constitution or the domestic law of each country, and yet dependent countries have been ignored. But I am encouraged to hear that people living in Okinawa have been resisting Militarism for such a long time.”