

U.S. Military Bases Violates Human Rights of the Local People: Italian Lawyers Points Out

Italian lawyer Micol Savia, who has been addressing the issues of American military bases in Europe, gave a lecture at Gender Equality Center in Naha City, Oct.31. She pointed out that the bases violate the human rights of people living in the vicinity, and called on the attendees to oppose it by working together.

She explained, "There are about 800 American bases in the world now. United States said that locating bases would bring economic and security advantages for countries. But it's not true, as you can see from the problems of Diego Garcia (British territory in Indian Ocean), where local residents there were forced out because of locating American base and there are hazardous material release from the base."

In terms of security, she commented that repeated American military drills in Europe rather create tensions between U.S. and Russia." Also she recognized that children living near the bases have some opportunities to contact with the soldiers or to become close to military vehicles, and it would raise an issue educationally.