



Press Release

Bishkek, June 1, 2013.

Discussion on the application of best practices in the area of protection of the rights of labor migrants in Kyrgyzstan

On June 3-4, 2013, the Tian Shan Policy Center (TSPC) at the American University of Central Asia, together with the "Resource Centre for the Elderly" Public Association will host the International Conference on *Best Practices in Protecting Labor Migrants' Rights and Perspectives of their Application in Kyrgyzstan*.

The Conference will bring together experts both from the Government and international organizations, educational institutions, NGOs and think tanks from Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Kazakhstan, Russia and the United States to discuss the best international practices in the field of labor migrants' rights implementation. The Conference is aimed at supporting stakeholders in their efforts to develop mechanisms for the implementation of best practices in Kyrgyzstan, and facilitating the discussion and formulation of concrete recommendations on reforming and managing migration processes in Kyrgyzstan and developing a new Government strategy for labor migration in particular.

In the framework of the Conference, the NTS television channel will broadcast a special video-report "The Nomads" in its "Situation" Program on Saturday, June 1, 2013. This report reflects on the challenges of migration and is to serve some food for thought for the Conference participants. The story line had been commissioned by TSPC.

The International Conference is going to be held within the framework of TSPC's project "Protecting the Rights of Kyrgyz Migrants: Utilizing Policy Analysis, Public Outreach, and Stakeholder Dialogue to Mobilize Action toward Reform, 2012-2014", with support from the Central Eurasia Program of the Open Society Foundations, as well as the regional offices of the Danish Church Aid and ICCO that represent ACT Alliance.

Tian Shan Policy Center (TSPC, <http://auca.kg/en/tspc/>), is a think-tank center of the American University of Central Asia and it specializes in research and analysis of effective public policies for the communities of Central Asia.

The "Resource Centre for the Elderly" Public Association (RCE, www.rce.kg) has been in the sphere of social support and protection of the elderly population of Kyrgyzstan for more than 21 years, using an integrated approach to the problems of the older generation. Since 2012, the RCE has been implementing its project on the "Promotion of the Rights of the Families Affected by Migration" aimed at providing vulnerable families that depend on migration with access to social services and economic opportunities.