

Master's Project: TPP Labor Capacity Building Gaps in Vietnam



Project Title	Master's Project: TPP Labor Capacity Building Gaps in Vietnam
Project Summary	Master's Project: TPP Labor Capacity Building Gaps in Vietnam [note: Melissa Carlier is assigned to this project.]
Country	United States
Agency	Department of State
DoS Office	EAP/EP
Post	N/A
Section	N/A
Number of Interns	1

Project Description

In Vietnam, an estimated 30,000 men, women and children are forced to work in detention centers for drug treatment. This practice is in violation of International Labor Organization Convention 29 standards, which requires that 1) individuals are given the full due process of law before conviction, and 2) that individuals convicted of a crime are not forced to work for private companies as part of their labor sentence (International Labor Rights Forum, 11). Vietnam's drug detention centers also violate ILO standards on child labor. Vietnam is a member of the Trans-Pacific Partnership. The United States has developed a labor contingency plan with Vietnam, in which Vietnam commits to eliminated forced labor as a sentence for drug rehabilitation (U.S.- Vietnam Plan for Enhancement of Trade and Labor Relations). However, the agreement faces issues of enforcement of these commitments. (see Additional Info for continuation)

Desired Skills Interests

Skill

familiarity with International Labor Organization Convention 29 standards

familiarity with child labor laws

Trade and Labor Relations

TPP

Trans Pacific Partnership

familiarity with AFL-CIO

policy solutions

Additional Information

The AFL-CIO argues that TPP Consistency plans do not provide sufficient enforcement mechanisms and benchmarks to ensure these standards are met, and furthermore are only accountable to the U.S. ability to enforce the agreement (Day, 2016). This project aims to develop policy solutions to ensure that Vietnam follows through on its commitments to eliminate forced labor in drug rehabilitation centers.

Language Requirements

None