

HUMAN TRAFFICKING IN MONGOLIA

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Human trafficking in Mongolia is a difficult problem to monitor. For illegal trafficking, there are few if any statistics available. One estimate, by the Human Rights Commission in Mongolia, postulated that by the end of 2002 over 200 women had been trafficked.¹ Women are the primary victims of trafficking in and out of Mongolia. What we do know is that human trafficking there is on the increase, and that to effectively counter the threats posed by it, the problems that lead to such dire situations must be understood. In addition, the threats posed by trafficking itself must be studied in order to prevent such abuses in future.

Fig. 1- Six Dimensions of Human Trafficking in Mongolia²

Nature of Threat	Threat to the <i>individual</i> caused by human trafficking in Mongolia	Threat to the <i>state</i> caused by human trafficking in Mongolia
Values threatened	Physical, psychological safety, traditional views of femininity and the family	International reputation, border safety, rule of law
Whose values	Women trafficked and their families & friends	The state in general, agencies such as police, border security
Sources of threat	Traffickers, pimps, customers, as well as collusive officials	Collusive officials, unmonitored borders, welcoming foreign governments
Means to counter threat	Education and awareness, eventual economic development	Less corrupt officials, destruction of criminal networks
Control of means	The individual, families, the education system, economic development agencies	Law enforcement agencies, border and passport agencies, countries of destination
Fiscal responsibility	State agencies, foreign aid organizations, federal programs	National government, other regional governments

¹ "Mongolia". Stop the Traffic 2 Conference. Melbourne: Asia Pacific Forum of National Human Rights Institutions, 2003. <http://www.asiapacificforum.net/advisory/trafficking/news.htm>. (Accessed 28 January 2006).

² The six questions are from "Typology of Non-traditional Security" prepared and distributed by Prof. Tsuneo Akaha, Monterey Institute of International Studies, in IP556, *Non-traditional Security*, January 24, 2006.