Across international borders individuals, organizations, and communities are searching for new modes and methods to combat the worldwide spread of human trafficking. This panel discussion will address contemporary issues pertinent to the trafficking and exploitation of men, women and children in the U.S. and South East Asian regions. Divided in two parts, the panel discussants will first focus on legal definitions and migration patterns of human trafficking in a transnational context. Secondly, the session will look at regional initiatives from the perspective of NGOs within Southeast Asia to prevent, protect, rehabilitate, and repatriate women and children from illegally being forced into work. The presenters will show two short films including Daughters and Sons: Preventing Child Trafficking in the Golden Triangle (2008) and a clip of Very Young Girls (2007) to illustrate current efforts in global campaign to end human trafficking.

The presenters are all current East-West Center participants in the Education Program. Tatjana Johnson is a J.D. candidate of William S. Richardson School of Law and in recent projects has focused on human trafficking issues in Hawai‘i. Ratirose Supaporn previously worked for Save the Children's project against child trafficking and is now a M.A. candidate in the Department of Communication. Lola-Shirin Wagner, Founder and Program Director of a Batam-based NGO called Humanity and Health Partner Foundation (YMKK), is currently an Asia-Pacific Leadership Program Fellow. Prior to attending University of Hawai‘i at Mānoa, Micah Pexa lived in Thailand for two years where he worked with two NGOs to rehabilitate victims of human trafficking in the region.

Refreshments will be served. Please bring your own cup.
The community is welcome to attend this lecture.