

## **Tom Lantos Human Rights Commission Briefing**

**Bahrain: 2018 Elections** 

## Panel I



Michael Payne is the Director of Advocacy for Americans for Human Rights and Democracy in Bahrain (ADHRB). ADHRB engages with the U.S. government, Congress, and the United Nations to advance support for democracy and human rights in Bahrain, Saudi Arabia, and other member states of the Gulf Cooperation Council. Michael has represented ADHRB before international human rights institutions and mechanisms, in public events and in national and international media. Previously he

worked for two Egyptian nongovernmental organizations, the Ibn Khaldun Center for Democracy Development and the Egyptian Democratic Academy, while simultaneously completing a year of intensive Arabic language study at the American University in Cairo. Michael received his B.A. with honors in International Relations from Knox College.



**Seth Binder** is the Advocacy Officer at the Project for Middle East Democracy (POMED). Previously, he served as program manager and research associate at the Center for International Policy's Security Assistance Monitor program, where he focused on U.S. security assistance and arms sales policy. He has authored publications on U.S. security assistance to Palestine, Yemen, and Tunisia and has been quoted in numerous outlets including TIME, Al-Jazeera, and Foreign Policy. Seth received his B.A. in History from Oberlin College and M.A. in International Relations from Syracuse University's Maxwell School of

Citizenship and Public Affairs.



**Leslie Campbell** is the Regional Director for Middle East and North Africa Programs at the National Democratic Institute (NDI). He joined NDI in 1994 and has directed the Institute's programs in the Middle East and North Africa (MENA) region since 1996. Prior to joining NDI, Mr. Campbell was chief of staff to the leader of the New Democratic Party in the Canadian House of

Commons. Mr. Campbell is also a frequent guest and commentator on Middle East issues for major news outlets, and has written a number of articles and papers on the subject of democracy in the Middle East, including a chapter in *The Islamists Are Coming* (USIP Press, April 2012) and "Party Building in the Middle East," which appeared in the winter 2010 edition of *International Journal*. Mr. Campbell holds a Master's degree in public administration from Harvard University and a B.A. from the University of Manitoba.

## **Moderator**



**Dr. Kenneth Katzman** is Senior Middle East Analyst at the Congressional Research Service. He covers Iran, Iraq, Afghanistan, and Persian Gulf Affairs. He is responsible for analyzing regional developments and U.S. policy to assist Members of Congress in their legislative and oversight responsibilities. He has participated in several congressional delegations to the region at the Member and staff level, and given many official presentations and briefings at conferences and meetings throughout Europe, Asia, and the Islamic world. Dr. Katzman

holds a Ph.D. in Political Science from New York University, and previously served as an analyst at the Central Intelligence Agency. He is the author of various outside publications, including a book entitled *The Warriors of Islam: Iran's Revolutionary Guard*, based on his doctoral dissertation.