



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

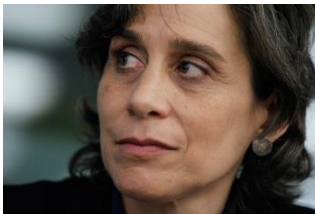
### **Human Rights in Iran**

**Thursday, October 29<sup>th</sup>, 2015  
11:30 AM - 12:30 PM  
2172 Rayburn House Office Building**

### **Panelists**



**Dr. Ahmed Shaheed** is the UN Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in the Islamic Republic of Iran and a Lecturer at the Human Rights Centre, University of Essex Law School. He has served as Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Maldives from 2005 to 2007 and from 2008 to 2010, a position he used to strengthen the country's compliance with international human rights standards and norms. In 2011, Dr. Shaheed was elected by the United Nations' Human Rights Council to serve as Special Rapporteur on the human rights situation in Iran. In that capacity, he has conducted path-breaking research and issued six authoritative reports to the United Nations General Assembly and the United Nations Human Rights Council on Iran's human rights record and its compliance with its international human rights obligations. He is also Chair of the Universal Rights Group; a think tank dedicated to improving the transparency and understanding of the work of the work of the United Nations human rights mechanisms and its impact on the advancement and protection of human rights globally.



**Dr. Roya Boroumand** is the Executive Director of Abdorrahman Boroumand Foundation. She has a PhD in history of international relations from France and is a specialist in Iran's post-Second World War history. She is a former consultant with the Women's Rights Division of Human Rights Watch and has researched and written about women's rights and family law in North Africa. She has co-authored several articles on the political situation in Iran and the nature of Islamist terrorism. She and her sister Ladan Boroumand recieved the Lech Walesa Prize in 2009.



**Dr. Hadi Ghaemi** is an internationally recognized Iran analyst and human rights expert. He is currently the executive director of the International Campaign for Human Rights in Iran. In 2008, together with a group of international human rights activists, he founded the International Campaign for Human Rights in Iran, which has become one of the leading groups reporting and documenting human rights violations in Iran and building international coalitions in defense of Iranian human rights defenders. In 2004, he joined Human Rights Watch as the Iran and United Arab Emirates researcher. His work at Human Rights Watch focused international attention on the plight of migrant workers in Dubai, as well as the repression of civil society in Iran. After the invasion of Afghanistan in 2001, he was a member of the first UN-commissioned human rights fact finding mission to Afghanistan. Between 2001 and 2004, he worked with NGOs focusing on Afghanistan and Iraq.

### **Moderator**



**Mr. Stephen McInerney** is Executive Director of the Project on Middle East Democracy (POMED). He previously served as POMED's Advocacy Director from 2007 to 2010. He has extensive experience in the Middle East and North Africa, including graduate studies of Middle Eastern politics, history, and the Arabic language at the American University of Beirut and the American University in Cairo.