



Tom Lantos Human Rights Commission Hearing

Defending Prisoners of Conscience



Andrew Fandino is Amnesty International's Senior Program Officer with the Individuals at Risk Program. He has over 18 years of human rights advocacy, and he also spent five years living and working in Southeast Asia, creating his own NGO called the Committee for the Protection for Human Rights, which focused on capacity building, research and advocacy work in Malaysia, Thailand, Burma, Cambodia, Indonesia and the Philippines. Andrew has a B.A. in Government and Politics from the University of Maryland and an M.A. in International Affairs from American University.



Kristina Arriaga is the vice chairwoman of the United States Commission on International Religious Freedom. For over 20 years, Arriaga has worked on the defense of religious freedom internationally and domestically as Advisor to the United States delegation to the United Nations Human Rights Commission, an appointee to the U.S. Civil Rights Commission, and as the Executive Director of Becket Law, a U.S.-based public interest law firm that defends the free expression of all religious traditions. Arriaga has a Master's degree from Georgetown University where she graduated magna cum laude.



Melina Milazzo is Freedom Now's Washington DC director where she is responsible for developing and executing advocacy strategies aimed at freeing individual prisoners of conscience and addressing arbitrary detention. Previously, she was senior policy counsel for the Center for Victims of Torture; she also served as advocacy counsel for Human Rights First's Law and Security program where she advocated on similar issues. Melina received her J.D. with high honors in international law from Florida State University College of Law and her B.S. in Business Administration from the same university. She is a member in good standing of the New York State

Bar. Follow her on Twitter at [@Melina_Milazzo](#)



Margaux Ewen is the North America Director of Reporters Without Borders (RSF), where she runs the U.S. activities for the organization and advocates for journalists, bloggers and media rights worldwide. Acting as RSF's spokesperson in the U.S., Margaux regularly appears on American media (CNN, VOA, The Daily Show, etc.) and foreign media (BBC, Al Jazeera, France 24, etc.) on press freedom violation issues and the work of RSF. Margaux joined RSF's US office in July 2015 as Advocacy and Communications Director with a background in International Law. She has degrees from the Sorbonne in France and the George Washington University Law School.



Annie Wilcox Boyajian is the Advocacy Manager at Freedom House, and leads Freedom House's advocacy to the U.S. Congress and collaboration with American human rights groups. Prior to joining Freedom House, she spent seven years on Capitol Hill, working in both the Senate and the House. She has worked extensively on freedom of expression and freedom of religion issues, and holds a Master's degree in International Affairs: U.S. Foreign Policy from American University's School of International Service. Her Master's research project focused on China's influence on African media.