

## Tom Lantos Human Rights Commission Briefing

## U.S. Strategy to Stop Joseph Kony and the Lord's Resistance Army

Monday, August 10th, 2015 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM 2255 Rayburn House Office Building

## **Panelists**

**Paul Ronan** is a co-founder of The Resolve LRA Crisis Initiative, and currently serves as the Project Director. He also co-manages the LRA Crisis Tracker, a project that provides analysis of trends in LRA violence and activity for policymakers, humanitarians, and affected communities. Paul travels frequently to Uganda and LRA-affected areas of the CAR, Congo, and South Sudan. He is also a frequent contributor to media outlets, Congressional briefings, and think tank forums. Prior to co-founding The Resolve, he worked in the Caritas International and Franciscans International UN advocacy offices in New York.

**Sasha Lezhnev** is team leader of the D.R. Congo, Great Lakes Region, and Lord's Resistance Army team at the Enough Project, where he focuses on peace process and conflict minerals issues. He is also Executive Director and Co-Founder of the Grassroots Reconciliation Group, an organization that helps former child soldiers in Uganda. Previously, Sasha worked as Policy Adviser at Global Witness on U.S. conflict resources and energy policy. He worked for 2 1/2 years in Uganda as Senior Program Officer with the Northern Uganda Peace Initiative and peace process advisor to the northern Uganda mediator.

**Lisa Dougan** serves as the President and CEO of Invisible Children, a nonprofit organization dedicated to seeing a permanent end to the violence of the Lord's Resistance Army (LRA) in central Africa, and supporting the lasting recovery of communities affected by the conflict. Prior to her current role, Lisa served as Invisible Children's Director of International Programs, overseeing the organization's fieldwork in Central African Republic, the Democratic Republic of Congo, and Uganda, which focus on community-based protection, resilience, and recovery initiatives in LRA-affected communities, and well as the promotion of safe and peaceful

defections by LRA combatants and captives. From 2008-2012, Lisa also worked with Invisible Children and partner organizations developing and implementing nation-wide advocacy campaigns that have played a critical role in advancing U.S. policy on the LRA crisis, including the passage of the LRA Disarmament and Northern Uganda Recovery Act.

## **Moderator**

Sarah Margon is the Washington director at Human Rights Watch. Prior to joining Human Rights Watch, Margon was associate director of sustainable security and peacebuilding at the Center for American Progress, where she researched and wrote on a wide range of issues including civilian protection, conflict prevention, humanitarian relief, and the rule of law. Margon also served as senior foreign policy advisor to Sen. Russ Feingold (D-WI) and as staff director to the Senate Foreign Relations Subcommittee on African Affairs. She has been a guest on various national and international media programs and has published op-eds in a wide range of outlets from the Washington Post to Foreign Policy. Margon holds a graduate degree from Georgetown University's Walsh School of Foreign Service and an undergraduate degree from Wesleyan University (Connecticut).