

Tom Lantos Human Rights Commission Hearing

Witness Biographies

<u>The Global Magnitsky Human Rights Accountability Act:</u> <u>Taking Stock</u>

Panel I



Senator Ben Cardin is the senior senator from Maryland. With a deep interest in foreign affairs, Senator Cardin has worked across party lines to further our national security and protect universal human rights. He has fought to ensure that anti-corruption, transparency and respect for human rights are integrated our foreign policy. He also has worked to ensure gender equity in national security programs and policies. He has been a Commissioner on the U.S. Helsinki Commission since 1993, serving as Chairman of the Commission in the current 117th, as well as the 113th and 111th Congresses. In 2015, he was named as the Special Representative on

Anti-Semitism, Racism, and Intolerance for the 57-nation Organization Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) Parliamentary Assembly. Senator Cardin serves as a member of the Foreign Relations Western Hemisphere, Transnational Crime, Civilian Security, Democracy, Human Rights, and Global Women's Issues. He previously has served as the Ranking Member of the SFRC East Asia, the Pacific, and International Cybersecurity Policy Subcommittee, and he is the former Chairman of the International Development and Foreign Assistance Subcommittee.

Panel II



Michael Breen is President and Chief Executive Officer of Human Rights First, one of the nation's leading human rights advocacy organizations. Established in 1978, Human Rights First's mission is to ensure that the United States is a global leader on human rights. The organization works in the United States and abroad to promote respect for human rights and the rule of law. Breen leads a staff with offices in New York City, Washington, D.C., Los Angeles, and Houston. Before joining Human Rights First, Breen served as President and CEO of the Truman National Security Project, a nationwide membership organization of diverse leaders inspired to serve in the aftermath of 9/11 and committed to shaping and advocating for tough, smart national security solutions. Prior to his work at the

Truman Project, Breen led soldiers in combat in Iraq and Afghanistan as a U.S. Army officer, including by serving for a year as a platoon leader in the Pech and Korengal Valleys with the 173rd Airborne. After leaving the military, he served in the Office of White House Counsel and co-founded the International Refugee Assistance Project, working with refugee families in Syria, Lebanon, and Jordan.



Brad Brooks-Rubin is General Counsel at The Sentry, which is an investigative and policy team that follows the dirty money connected to African war criminals and transnational war profiteers and seeks to shut those benefiting from violence out of the international financial system. In his work at The Sentry over more than five years, he has helped the organization develop its innovative policy approach, including advocacy and engagement with government agencies, financial institutions, and other non-profits in the United States, Europe, Africa, and elsewhere. From 2009-

2013, Mr. Brooks-Rubin served as the Special Adviser for Conflict Diamonds at the United States Department of State. In this capacity, he provided working level representation for the United States in the Kimberley Process and contributed to U.S. efforts related to conflict minerals in eastern Congo. Prior to joining the Department of State, Mr. Brooks-Rubin served as an Attorney-Adviser in the Treasury Department's Office of the Chief Counsel (Foreign Assets Control), where he provided advice on a range of economic sanctions issues related to Sudan, the former Liberian regime of Charles Taylor, Democratic Republic of the Congo, and counter-terrorism.



Beth Van Schaack is the Leah Kaplan Visiting Professor in Human Rights at Stanford Law School where she teaches in the areas of international human rights, international criminal law, and human trafficking, among other subjects, and has been the Acting Director of the Human Rights & Conflict Resolution Clinic. She is also a Faculty Fellow with Stanford's Center for Human Rights & International Justice at Stanford University. Prior to returning to academia, she served as Deputy to the Ambassador-at-Large for War Crimes Issues in the Office of Global Criminal Justice of the

U.S. Department of State under Secretaries Clinton and Kerry. In that capacity, she helped to advise the Secretary of State and the Under Secretary for Civilian Security, Democracy and Human Rights on the formulation of U.S. policy regarding the prevention of and accountability for mass atrocities, such as war crimes, crimes against humanity, and genocide. She has also spent time in private practice with Morrison & Foerster LLP and with the Office of the Prosecutor of the International Criminal Tribunals for the former Yugoslavia and Rwanda. She advises a number of human rights and international justice organizations, including: the Documentation Center of Cambodia (DC-Cam), the International Institute for Criminal Investigations (IICI), the National Institute of Military Justice (NIMJ), the International Justice Resource Center (IJRC), the Commission on International Justice & Accountability (CIJA), the Center for Justice & Accountability, Nuru International, and Accountability Council.



Tutu Alicante is a human rights lawyer and sharp-witted commentator on all things authoritarianism and kleptocracy. A native of Equatorial Guinea, he is the founder of EG Justice, the only human rights organization that focuses exclusively on this Central African nation. He has written for the Washington Post and The Guardian, among other influential outlets, and has led the way in pushing back against one of the most oppressive and longest-ruling authoritarian kleptocracies in the world. Tutu holds a master's in law degree from Columbia Law School and a law degree from the University of Tennessee.



John Hughes is an Adjunct Senior Fellow in the Energy, Economics, and Security program at the Center for a New American Security, where he focuses on the intersection of U.S. economic statecraft and foreign policy. He is also a Senior Vice President at Albright Stonebridge Group, where he advises clients on market entry and expansion, government affairs, and managing regulatory issues, with a particular focus on European markets and sanctions issues. Previously, Mr. Hughes was the Deputy Director in the Office of Sanctions Policy and Implementation in the State Department's

Bureau of Economic and Business Affairs. In this role, Mr. Hughes helped set policy priorities for sanctions and export control regimes around the globe, and served as a key liaison to the private sector. During his tenure there, he visited over twenty countries to engage foreign governments and articulate U.S. policies to the private sector abroad, and advised companies on complex policy and regulatory issues. A former Presidential Management Fellow, Mr. Hughes also spent time in the Office of Korean Affairs and Bureau of Consular Affairs.