



Tom Lantos Human Rights Commission Hearing

Human Rights in Egypt

Wednesday, October 21, 2015

1:30 – 3:30 PM

2360 RHOB

Biographies



Tom Malinowski was sworn in as Assistant Secretary of State for Democracy, Human Rights and Labor on April 3, 2014. Previously, from 2001, he was Washington Director for Human Rights Watch, one of the world's leading independent international organizations dedicated to defending and protecting human rights. From 1998 to 2001, he served as Senior Director on the National Security Council at the White House, where he oversaw the drafting of President Clinton's foreign policy speeches and strategic communications efforts around the world. From 1994 to 1998 he was a speechwriter for Secretaries of State Warren Christopher and Madeleine Albright, and member of the Policy Planning Staff at the Department of State.

Earlier in his career, Mr. Malinowski worked as a research assistant for the Ford Foundation in 1993, and for the Institute for Human Sciences in Vienna, Austria, in 1992. He began his career as a Special Assistant for Senator Daniel Patrick Moynihan in 1988. Mr. Malinowski received a B.A. from the University of California, Berkeley, and an M.Phil. from Oxford University, where he was a Rhodes Scholar.



Robert P. George is McCormick Professor of Jurisprudence and Director of the James Madison Program in American Ideals and Institutions at Princeton University. He has been a Visiting Professor at Harvard Law School, and is a Senior Fellow of the Hoover Institution at Stanford University.

He has served on the President's Council on Bioethics and as a presidential appointee to the United States Commission on Civil Rights. He has also served on UNESCO's World Commission on the Ethics of Scientific Knowledge and Technology (COMEST), of which he remains a corresponding member.

A graduate of Swarthmore College and Harvard Law School, Professor George also earned a master's degree in theology from Harvard and a doctorate in philosophy of law from Oxford University, which he attended on a Knox Scholarship from Harvard. He holds honorary doctorates of law, letters, science, ethics, divinity, humane letters, civil law, and juridical science.

He is the author of [Making Men Moral: Civil Liberties and Public Morality](#), [In Defense of Natural Law](#), and [Conscience and Its Enemies](#), among other books. His articles and review essays have appeared in the Harvard Law Review, the Yale Law Journal, the Columbia Law Review, the Review of Politics, the Review of Metaphysics, the American Journal of Jurisprudence, and Law and Philosophy. He has also written for the New York Times, the Wall Street Journal, the Washington Post, First Things magazine, National Review, the Boston Review, and the Times Literary Supplement.

Professor George is a former Judicial Fellow at the Supreme Court of the United States, where he received the Justice Tom C. Clark Award.

His other honors include the United States Presidential Citizens Medal, the Honorific Medal for the Defense of Human Rights of the Republic of Poland, the Bradley Prize for Intellectual and Civic Achievement, the Phillip Merrill Award for Outstanding Contributions to the Liberal Arts of the American Council of Trustees and Alumni, a Silver Gavel Award of the American Bar Association, the Paul Bator Award of the Federalist Society for Law and Public Policy, the Canterbury Medal of the Becket Fund for Religious Liberty, and the Sidney Hook Memorial Award of the National Association of Scholars.

He is a member of the Council on Foreign Relations and is Of Counsel to the law firm of Robinson & McElwee.

Dr. George was appointed to the Commission on March 22, 2012 by Speaker of the House John Boehner (R-OH) and was reappointed to a second term in 2014.



Shadi Hamid is a senior fellow in the [Project on U.S. Relations with the Islamic World](#) in the [Center for Middle East Policy](#), and the author of [“Temptations of Power: Islamists and Illiberal Democracy in a New Middle East”](#) (Oxford University Press, 2014). He served as director of research at the Brookings Doha Center until January 2014. Prior to joining Brookings, Hamid was director of research at the Project on Middle East Democracy (POMED) and a Hewlett Fellow at Stanford University's Center on Democracy, Development, and the Rule of Law. Hamid is currently vice-chair of POMED's board of directors, a member of the World Bank's MENA Advisory Panel, as well as a contributing writer for The Atlantic.



Mohamed Soltan ([Arabic](#): محمد سلطان, born circa 1988), an [Egyptian-American dual citizen](#) who is a political activist in [Egypt](#). He was one of the media spokesmen for the camp in Cairo's [Rabaa al-Adawiya Square](#), where protesters called for the reinstatement of deposed President [Mohamed Morsi](#). He was arrested along with 3 other youths by Egyptian security forces on 27 August 2013. Soltan has been charged with a number of terror- and conspiracy-related charges in connection with his participation in demonstrations against Morsi's ouster.

In January 26, 2014, he entered into a hunger strike to protest his detention by the Egyptian authorities. He was released and sent back to the US on May 31, 2015. His hunger strike lasted more than 400 days.



Sarah Leah Whitson, executive director of Human Rights Watch's Middle East and North Africa Division, oversees the work of the division in 19 countries, with staff located in 10 countries. She has led dozens of advocacy and investigative missions throughout the region, focusing on issues of armed conflict, accountability, legal reform, migrant workers, and political rights. She has published widely on human rights issues in the Middle East in international and regional media, including *The New York Times*, *Foreign Policy*, *The Los Angeles Times*, and *CNN*. She appears regularly on Al-Jazeera, BBC, NPR, and CNN. Before joining Human Rights Watch, Whitson worked in New York for Goldman, Sachs & Co. and Cleary, Gottlieb, Steen & Hamilton. She graduated from the University of California, Berkeley and Harvard Law School. Whitson is a member of the Council on Foreign Relations. She speaks Armenian and Arabic.



Dr. Daniel Calingaert is executive vice president at Freedom House. In this role, he oversees Freedom House's contributions to policy debate on democracy and human rights issues and outreach to the U.S. Congress, foreign governments, media, and Freedom House supporters. He previously supervised Freedom House's civil society and media programs worldwide. He contributes frequently to policy and media discussions on democracy issues, including internet freedom, elections, authoritarian regimes, and democracy assistance.

He also has taught at Georgetown University's Master of Arts (M.A.) Program in Democracy and Governance, Johns Hopkins University's School of Advanced International Studies, and American University's School of Public Affairs. Prior to joining Freedom House, Dr. Calingaert was Associate Director of American University's Center for Democracy and Election Management and Associate Director of the Commission on Federal Election Reform, which was co-chaired by Jimmy Carter and James A. Baker, III. He served as Director for Asia and as Deputy Director for Eastern Europe at the International Republican Institute (IRI), where he designed and managed a wide range of democracy promotion programs. These programs strengthened civil society, parliaments, governance, political parties, and elections in more than a dozen countries. Dr. Calingaert began his career as a researcher at the RAND Corporation and later directed programs for the Civic Education Project to reform social science education at universities across Eastern Europe and Eurasia. He graduated with highest honors in International Relations from Tufts University and earned his Master in Philosophy (M.Phil.) and Doctor of Philosophy (D.Phil.) from Oxford University.