



Co-Chairs Senator Chris Coons (D-DE) and Senator Thom Tillis (R-NC)
invite you to join a briefing:

Advancing Human Rights in Iran
A conversation moderated by activist & actress Nazanin Boniadi

Tuesday, September 18
3:00 – 4:15 PM
385 Russell Senate Office Building

Featuring remarks by **Senator Chris Coons, Senator Todd Young (R-IN), Dr. Nina Ansary, Masih Alinejad, and Karim Sadjadpour**

Please RSVP to attend by emailing: Anna.Yelverton@coons.senate.gov

Panelists:

Nazanin Boniadi is an Iranian-born actress and activist. Her TV and film credits include *How I Met Your Mother* (CBS), *Homeland* (Showtime), *Counterpart* (Starz), *Ben-Hur* (2016, MGM/Paramount), and *Hotel Mumbai* (2018). She served as a spokesperson for Amnesty International USA (AIUSA) from 2009 until 2015 and continues to partner with AIUSA as an Artist of Conscience. In particular, Ms. Boniadi has been very involved in bringing attention to the unjust conviction and treatment of Iranian youth, women, and prisoners of conscience. Ms. Boniadi was selected as a term member by the Council on Foreign Relations in 2014. In October 2015, she joined the Board of Directors of the Center for Human Rights in Iran.

Dr. Nina Ansary is a bestselling author, historian, and leading authority on women's rights in Iran. Her book *Jewels of Allah: The Untold Story of Women in Iran* received international attention and has garnered multiple awards including the 2016 International Book Award in "Women's Issues". Dr. Ansary is a Visiting Fellow at the London School of Economics Centre for Women, Peace, and Security. In 2018, she was appointed one of six UN Women Champions for Innovation. Dr. Ansary holds an MA in Middle Eastern Studies and a PhD in History from Columbia University. She serves on the Board of Directors of the Center for Human Rights in Iran, Columbia University's Global Leadership Council, the Board of Trustees of Barnard College, the Iranian American Women's Foundation, and Persia Educational Foundation.

Masih Alinejad is the founder of the My Stealthy Freedom campaign against compulsory hijab and a women's rights activist, author, and journalist. She writes and presents the weekly Tablet show on VOA. Born in Iran, Masih was jailed at 18 for her writings against the Islamic Republic. She became a journalist at ILNA news agency and *Hambastegi*, a reformist newspaper where she exposed corruption among Iran's members of parliament. She later became a columnist for *Etemad Melli*. She left Iran in 2009, and in 2014 created the My Stealthy Freedom campaign to provide a platform for Iranian women to protest compulsory hijab rules.

Karim Sadjadpour is a senior fellow at the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, where he focuses on Iran and U.S. foreign policy toward the Middle East. He is a regular contributor to the *Atlantic* and an adjunct professor at Georgetown University's School of Foreign Service. He was previously an analyst with the International Crisis Group, based in Tehran and Washington. He is a board member of the Center for Human Rights in Iran.