



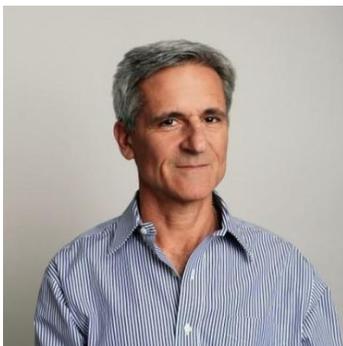
U.S. Commission on International Religious Freedom Hearing
State-Sanctioned Religious Freedom Violations and
Coercion by Saudi Arabia and Iran

Panel I



Dr. Ahmed Shaheed assumed his mandate as Special Rapporteur on freedom of religion or belief on November 1, 2016. Hon. Shaheed is Deputy Director of the Essex Human Rights Centre. He was the first Special Rapporteur of the Human Rights Council on the situation of human rights in the Islamic Republic of Iran since the termination of the previous Commission on Human Rights mandate in 2002. A career diplomat, he has twice held the office of Minister of Foreign Affairs of Maldives. He led Maldives' efforts to embrace international human rights standards between 2003 and 2011. In 2015, Hon. Shaheed won the UN Foundation Leo Nevas Human Rights (Global Leadership) Award. In 2010, he was granted a Presidential Medal of Gratitude by Albania and in 2009, he was recognized as the Muslim Democrat of the Year by the Centre for the Study of Islam and Democracy.

Panel II



Eric Goldstein, acting Executive Director of Human Rights Watch's Middle East and North Africa division, is an expert on Tunisia, Algeria, Morocco, and Western Sahara. He has conducted research missions to these and other regions of the Middle East since the 1980s, writing numerous reports for Human Rights Watch and publishing articles in news media and academic journals. He has taught courses on human rights at Princeton and Georgetown universities. Before joining Human Rights Watch, Goldstein worked at the Committee to Protect Journalists. He holds a bachelor's degree from Harvard University and a master's in international affairs from Columbia University.



Marjan Greenblatt, born and raised in Iran, is a human rights activist and an advocate for the rights of Iran’s women and minorities. As a former refugee who escaped discrimination in the Middle East and Europe, her career has focused on advocacy for human rights and the advancement of democratic ideals. Marjan is the Founder and Director of the Alliance for Rights of All Minorities (ARAM), an international network of activists that promotes human rights in Iran. This group recently launched StopFemicideIran, an advocacy initiative that monitors and documents acts of femicide in Iran and memorializes their victims. Marjan also serves as a member of the Anti-Defamation League’s (ADL) Task Force on Middle East Minorities. She is a non-resident scholar with the Middle East Institute's Iran Program and serves on the advisory board of the National Union for Democracy in Iran ([NUFDI](#)). She is a producer of the highly acclaimed [HOMANITY](#), the first-of-its-kind compilation album featuring the music of Iranian banned and underground artists. Her writings and activism have been featured in Ms. Magazine, Women’s Media Center, Rolling Stone, Newsweek, and IranWire, among others. She holds a degree in sociology from UCLA and a Master’s in Education from Harvard University.



Hala Aldosari, Ph.D. is a scholar and activist from Saudi Arabia; now based in the United States. Her writings and research explore the social determinants of women’s health, violence against women, and women’s rights and human rights across the Arab Gulf States. She serves as an advisory board member for Human Rights Watch for the Middle East and North Africa region and the Gulf Center for Human Rights. She has also served as a member of Harvard’s initiative “Every Woman” that aims to create a United Nations Global Treaty to prevent violence against women and girls. Her writings have appeared in several media outlets, such as Foreign Affairs, New York Times, The Guardian, and the Washington Post, where she served as the inaugural Khashoggi fellow. Her advocacy for rights and freedom was recognized by several awards; including the Freedom House award for 2016 for outstanding leaders in the cause of freedom and democracy, the 2018 Alison Des Forges award for extraordinary activism by Human Rights Watch among other awards.