

## Iranian Public Opinion Under US Sanctions

Middle East Programs & the Center for  
International and Security Studies at  
Maryland

Wednesday, October 16, 2019

10:00 – 11:30 a.m.

## Speaker Bios



### **Nancy Gallagher**

*Director, Center for International and Security Studies at Maryland*

**Nancy Gallagher** is the director at the Center for International and Security Studies at Maryland (CISSM) and a research professor in the University of Maryland School of Public Policy. Her current research includes a book project on strategic logics for arms control; public opinion surveys about security policy in the United States, Iran and other countries; initiatives to improve cybersecurity decision-making; and cooperative strategies to reduce nuclear risks and enhance space security. Before coming to the University of Maryland, Gallagher was the executive director of the Clinton administration's Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty Task Force and worked with the special advisor to the President and the secretary of state to build bipartisan support for US ratification. She has been an arms control specialist in the State Department, a Foster Fellow in the Arms Control and Disarmament Agency, and a faculty member at Wesleyan University. Gallagher is the author of *The Politics of Verification* (1999) and the editor of *Arms Control: New Approaches to Theory and Policy* (1998). She has conducted a series of studies about US and Iranian public opinion on the 2015 nuclear deal, and written numerous policy reports, articles and op eds. She won the University of Maryland's 2015 Research Communication Impact Award, as well as the Outstanding Invention of 2016 award for her development, with Charles Harry, of a cybersecurity risk analysis framework.



### **Steve Inskeep**

*Host, Morning Edition, National Public Radio*

**Steve Inskeep** is host of the National Public Radio's (NPR) Morning Edition, as well as NPR's morning news podcast Up First, along with Rachel Martin, David Greene, and Noel King. Known for interviews with presidents and Congressional leaders, Inskeep has a passion for stories of the less famous: Pennsylvania truck drivers, Kentucky coal miners, US-Mexico border detainees, Yemeni refugees, California firefighters, American soldiers. Since joining Morning Edition in 2004, Inskeep has hosted the program from New Orleans, Detroit, San Francisco, Cairo, and Beijing; investigated Iraqi police in Baghdad; and received a Robert F. Kennedy Journalism Award for "*The Price of African Oil*," on conflict in Nigeria. He has taken listeners on a 2,428-mile journey along the US-Mexico border, and 2,700 miles across North Africa. He is a repeat visitor to Iran, which he visited again in August, and has covered wars in Syria and Yemen.



### **Assal Rad**

*Research Fellow, National Iranian American Council*

**Dr. Assal Rad** is a research fellow with the National Iranian American Council (NIAC). Awarded a PhD in Middle Eastern History from the University of California, Irvine in 2018, Rad's research focused on Modern Iran, with an emphasis on national identity formation and identity in post-revolutionary Iran. With this background, Rad works with the NIAC policy team on research and writing related to Iran policy issues and US-Iran relations. After working with NIAC in California as a volunteer on election and voting campaigns in 2018, Rad joined the team in January 2019 in order to further this work and embolden the voices of Iranian-Americans. In this role, Rad works to organize

Iranian-Americans around issues that affect the community.

## **Moderator Bio**



### **Barbara Slavin**

*Director, Future of Iran Initiative, Atlantic Council*

**Barbara Slavin** is the director of the Future of Iran Initiative at the Atlantic Council and a columnist for *Al-Monitor.com*, a website devoted to news from and about the Middle East. The author of *Bitter Friends, Bosom Enemies: Iran, the US and the Twisted Path to Confrontation* (2007), she is a regular commentator on US foreign policy and Iran on NPR, PBS, and CSPAN. A career journalist, Slavin previously served as assistant managing editor for world and national security of the Washington Times, senior diplomatic reporter for USA TODAY, Cairo correspondent for the Economist, as an editor at the New York Times Week in Review. She has covered such key foreign policy

issues as the US-led war on terrorism, policy toward "rogue" states the Iran-Iraq war, and the Arab-Israeli conflict. She has traveled to Iran nine times. Slavin also served as a public policy scholar the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars, where she wrote *Bitter Friends*, and as a senior fellow at the United States Institute of Peace, where she researched and wrote the report *Mullahs, Money and Militias: How Iran Exerts Its Influence in the Middle East*.