Biographies

- **Mr. Mehran Baloch**  
*Baloch Representative at UN Human Rights Council*

Mr. Mehran Baloch is a renowned Baloch human rights activist and a Baloch representative at the UN Human Rights Council. He is the president of Balochistan House, a Paris-based human rights organization. Son of legendary Baloch leader, politician and head of the Marri tribe, Nawab Khair Baksh Marri, Mehran Baloch is based in London.

- **Mr. Noordin Mengal**  
*Baloch representative at UN Human Rights Council (London)*

Mr. Mengal is a young self-exiled Baloch human rights activist peacefully campaigning for Baloch self-determination, regional peace and against religious fundamentalism. He is the grandson of both Sardar Ataullah Mengal and Nawab Khair Bux Marri, the two iconic statesmen of the Baloch national struggle. Mr. Noordin Mengal is the co-producer with his brother Bhawal Mengal of a film, *The Line of Freedom*, stressing the ongoing human rights crisis in Balochistan, and raising awareness about the persistence of disease, injustice, poverty, war, racial discrimination, gender and social inequality issues. Mr. Mengal is a Baloch representative at the UN Human Rights Council and at the Unrepresented Nations and Peoples Organization.

- **Mr. T. Kumar**  
*Director, International Advocacy for Amnesty International USA (Washington D.C)*

Originally from Sri Lanka and member of the Tamils ethnic group, Mr. T. Kumar undertook at the age of 17 a combat for the respect of human rights and against discriminatory rules towards Tamils. While participating to several pacific demonstrations, he was arrested and sentenced to jail, the first time for six months, and the second time for more than five years and a half during which he focused on studying. He then graduated from the University of Pennsylvania, obtained a Masters degree in Law, and became a lawyer in Sri Lanka. Mr. T. Kumar has worked in several Asian and African countries and served as a human rights monitor in many Asian countries as well as in Bosnia, Afghanistan, Guatemala, and South Africa. He currently holds the position of International Advocacy Director for Amnesty International, pursuing his fight against injustice.

- **Mr. Mario Silva**  
*Chair of the International Forum of Rights and Security and former Member of the Canadian Parliament*

In collaboration with Baluchistan House and The United Towns Agency for North South Cooperation
An international legal scholar, Mr. Mario Silva holds a Master’s degree in International Human Rights Law from the University of Oxford, and obtained his Ph.D. at the National University of Ireland. He was a member of the Canadian Parliament from 2004 to 2011. He served as the Official Opposition Critic for Foreign Affairs. He was appointed by the Prime Minister in 2011 as the chair of the Task Force for International Cooperation on Holocaust Education, Remembrance and Research. He also serves as the honorary chair of the International Forum of Rights and Security.

- **Mr. Russ Hiebert**  
  *Lawyer, businessman and Canadian Member of Parliament for South Surrey-White Rock-Cloverdale, a federal electoral district in British Columbia (Canada)*

Former practicing lawyer and small businessman, Mr. Russ Hiebert was first elected Parliament in June of 2004, re-elected for a second term in January 2006, for a third term in October 2008 and for a fourth term in May 2011. In in second term, he was appointed parliamentary secretary to Gordon O’Connor, Minister of National Defense, by Prime Minister Stephen Harper. In his third term, he served on the House of Commons Finance Committee and the International Human Rights Sub-Committee. Since his re-election at the 41st Canadian general election of 2011, Hiebert has served on the Standing Committee on International Trade Committee within the Canadian Parliament. He is currently a member of several Parliamentary Associations such as Canada-Africa, Canada-United States and Canada-China.

- **Mr. Burzine Waghmar**  
  *Senior Teaching Fellow and Academic Member, Centre for the Study of Pakistan and Centre for Iranian studies, School of Oriental and African Studies (SOAS), Univ. of London*

Mr. Waghmar is a Senior Teaching Fellow and a member of the Center for the Study of Pakistan, the Center for South Asian Studies and the Center for Iranian Studies (SOAS, University of London). His academic research focuses on greater Iran, Indo-Iranian dialectology, the ethnohistory of Balochistan, counterterrorism and dhimmist studies. Mr. Waghmar holds a Master’s degree in International Relations (Islamic studies) from Boston University. He is completing his doctorate in Bactrian studies. He reads Balochi, French, German, Gujarati, Hindi, Italian, Marathi, Russian, Sanskrit, Pashto and Urdu.

- **Mr. Willem Marx**  
  *Journalist at Bloomberg TV in New York (United States)*

Born in Great Britain and after studying Classics at Oxford University, Mr. Willem Marx moved to the United States to complete a MA in journalism at New York University. He then worked as a correspondent for *CBS News*, based out of their Kabul and later London bureaus, and reported
stories for both Al Jazeera English and Sky News. He is the co-author of “Balochistan at a Crossroads”, a book that stresses the fight of a province, located between Iran, Afghanistan and Pakistan, and its people for freedom and recognition. He currently lives in New York and work as a moving correspondent for Bloomberg TV.

- **Mr. Tarek Fatah**  
  *Writer, broadcaster and secular Muslim anti-Islamic activist (Canada)*

Tarek Fatah describes himself as “an Indian born in Pakistanm a Punjabi born in Islam, of Hindu ancestry & Sikh heritage. A ‘Sarmachar’ grounded in a Marxist youth, but above all a Canadian”. Author of two award-winning books, “Chasing a Mirage: he Tragic Illusion of an Islamic State” (Wiley 2008) and “The Jew is Not my Enemy” (McCleland & Stewart 2010). Fatah is also a columnist for The Toronto SUN and hosts a weekly radio show on Toronto’s NewsTalk1010 Radio. In Pakistan, Fatah was imprisoned twice for his political work as a student leader against successive military dictatorships. He has been associated with the Baloch national movement since the late 1960s. He left Pakistan in 1978 after yet another military coup and since 1987 he has called Canada home. From there he has led the fight against Islamist extremism and in exposing the tentacles of Pakistan’s subversive intelligence networks who seek to control the worldwide jihad against Western civilization.