

Speaker Bios - Chinese Repression of Muslim Minorities in Xinjiang Interactive program - Part 1

Sophie Richardson



Sophie Richardson is the China director at Human Rights Watch. A graduate of the University of Virginia, the Hopkins-Nanjing Program, and Oberlin College, Dr. Richardson is the author of numerous articles on domestic Chinese political reform, democratization, and human rights in Cambodia, China, Indonesia, Hong Kong, the Philippines, and Vietnam. She has testified before the European Parliament and the US Senate and House of Representatives.

Dr. Richardson has provided commentary to the BBC, CNN, the Far Eastern Economic Review, Foreign Policy, National Public Radio, the New York Times, the Wall Street Journal, and the Washington Post. Dr. Richardson is the author of China, Cambodia, and the Five Principles of Peaceful Coexistence.

Nury Turkel



Nury Turkel is a U.S.-based Uyghur rights advocate and attorney at Covington & Burling LLP in Washington D.C. Turkel was born in a re-education camp in China's Xinjiang region, and has been advocating for the rights of the Uyghur people in the region. Turkel is the former president of the Uyghur American Association (UAA) as well as the former executive director of the Uyghur Human Rights Project (UHRP), an organization that is committed to promoting human rights and democracy.

Turkel serves as a prominent voice for the Uyghur people by urging action against the repression of Uyghurs, such as international sanctions against Chinese government officials who actively participate in the abuse of human rights. Turkel has been featured in various media outlets such as BBC, Financial Review, and PRI as well as foreign policy forums.

Alim Seytoff



Alim Seytoff is the Service Director for the Uyghur Service at Radio Free Asia (RFA). He previously served as the Executive Director for the Uyghur Human Rights Project. In 1999 he started his career at RFA as a Production Coordinator and Broadcaster. Throughout his career has written many articles on China's human rights violations of the Uyghur people.

Seytoff has been published in a number of prominent news sources, including the Wall Street Journal, Al Jazeera, World Policy Institute, Asia Times, Huffington Post, Index on Censorship, and China Rights Forum. He has been frequently interviewed and/or quoted by CNN, Al Jazeera, BBC, Fox News, PBS, Voice of America, the New York Times, the Washington Post, Foreign Policy, Christian Science Monitor, and the newswires. He has testified several times before the US

Congress and has briefed both White House and State Department officials on China's human rights violations of the Uyghur people.

Moderator: Cory Andrews



Cory Andrews is the Deputy Director of the Office of Policy Planning and Public Diplomacy in the Bureau of Democracy, Human Rights, and Labor (DRL) at the U.S. Department of State.

He previously served in the Office of Western Hemisphere Affairs where his portfolio included 15 countries of the Caribbean Basin as well as LGBTI issues for Latin America, the Caribbean, and Canada. Cory also served as the Communications Director for GLIFAA, the State Department's LGBT+ employee affinity group.