

Iranian Regime's Lobby Becomes Active in Congress

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Next Tuesday, on November 18, the National Iranian American Council (NIAC) will host a congressional briefing. Senator Thomas Carper (D-DE) and Representative John Tierney (D-MA) are amongst the speakers. They will be talking about the new president's policy towards Iran.

It is deeply concerning that a discredited group within the Iranian-American community, with blatantly obvious connections with the Islamic Republic, should be allowed to freely influence Washington's political circles to the detriment of the American peoples' and ultimately, the world community's interests. It is also shocking and difficult to explain that a group labeled by the Iranian regime as the "Iranian lobby" could so easily penetrate the US Congress.

NIAC has been trusted, supported and promoted by the Iranian regime and this is the root cause of its deep discredibility within the Iranian community. Nevertheless, some American interest groups have invariably promoted such organizations to influence the US policies towards Iran.

NIAC was founded and grew strong during President Bush's time in the office. This was mainly due to the disconcerted policies and illusory hopes adopted by his administration for engaging with Tehran which inevitably prepared favorable grounds for the formation of such groups in the first place.

We, the Iranian-Americans believe that only our own mobilization could stop the spread of the Iranian regime's web of influence in the US. This is the first and most essential step to defend the interests of our community, protect our interests as Americans and defend our compatriots in Iran.

Regarding the contents of this event, once again, the speakers will argue that the time is now ripe to engage with the Iranian regime. They will be pushing for all the sanctions to be lifted, and will be arguing that incentives should be augmented. The organizer of the Tuesday event, Trita Parsi, as the moderator and president of NIAC will be trying to persuade the forum what he has been trying to achieve for a long time; that the US should accept the Iranian dominance in the Middle East. In an article in Huffington Post of April 22, 2008 Parsi wrote: "Is the United States ready to share the region with Iran?" Then he emphasized that: "Sooner or later, Iran and the U.S. must learn how to share the region."

NIAC and its president are fully aware that the US engagement with the Islamic Republic for the purpose of submission to Tehran's nuclear or regional ambitions is totally out of reach. What they are really set out to achieve, as they have been for a considerably long time, is to buy more precious time for Iran to achieve its nuclear ambitions and hence the regional supremacy and hegemony.

<http://www.iranian-americans.com/2008/11/366.html>