



PROJECT
on **Middle East**
Democracy

The Project on Middle East Democracy presents:

**FISCAL YEAR 2009 APPROPRIATIONS AND DEMOCRACY, GOVERNANCE,
AND HUMAN RIGHTS IN THE MIDDLE EAST**

President Bush recently submitted his budget request for fiscal year 2009 to the Congress, the final such request of his eight-year tenure. As the House and Senate debate appropriations levels for various programs, it is worthwhile to examine the levels of funding for democracy and governance programs for the Middle East, as well as the various bilateral foreign assistance packages to the region.

What are the most significant changes in these portions of the budget request, as compared with budget requests and appropriations from previous years? How would this budget impact US efforts to support democracy in the Middle East and North Africa? How will the funding levels ultimately approved by Congress likely compare with this request? And which democracy and governance programs established or expanded during President Bush's tenure are most likely to receive continued support by the next administration?

Please join us for a panel discussion with:

Amb. Edward Gabriel, President and CEO of The Gabriel Company, LLC, where he advises multinational corporations on international affairs and domestic policy, and former U.S. Ambassador to Morocco.

Stephen McInerney, Director of Advocacy for the Project on Middle East Democracy (POMED) and author of the April 2008 article "The Bush Administration's Budget and Democracy in the Arab World" in the Carnegie Endowment's *Arab Reform Bulletin*.

Jennifer Windsor, Executive Director of Freedom House and former Deputy Assistant Administrator and Director of the Center for Democracy and Governance (now the Office of Democracy and Governance) at the U.S. Agency for International Development.

Moderated by **Andrew Albertson**, Executive Director, Project on Middle East Democracy

Tuesday, April 29, 2008

10:00 – 11:30 am

Rayburn House Office Building, Room 2200

Metro: Capitol South (Blue and Orange Line)

Please RSVP by contacting: rsvp@pomed.org

Please bring photo ID for admission.