MILITARIZING THE MIDDLE EAST

TRUMP, THE IRAN DEAL AND THE RISK OF WAR

PUBLIC LECTURE WITH DR. TRITA PARSI
THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 28 | 4:30–6:30 PM
CRAIG AUDITORIUM, SCIENCE CENTER

Lecture followed by book signing of Trita Parsi’s Losing an Enemy: Obama, Iran, and the Triumph of Diplomacy

The Obama administration resolved the Iranian nuclear conflict but it proved a short-lived victory. As soon as Donald Trump took office, he began undermining the deal and officially left it earlier this year. Trump reimposed massive sanctions on Iran aimed at collapsing the Iranian economy and fomenting unrest in the country. But although Trump has severely damaged the Iranian economy, the sanctions policy is heading towards a failure as the Iranians are far from breaking. Which then raises the question: What will Trump do once it is clear that his sanctions policy hasn’t worked—will he escalate towards war, or will he back down from this unnecessary confrontation?

TRITA PARSI is an award-winning author and the 2010 recipient of the Grawemeyer Award for Ideas Improving World Order. He is the founder and president of the National Iranian American Council and an expert on US-Iranian relations, Iranian foreign politics, and the geopolitics of the Middle East. He is the author of three books on US-Iran relations, including Losing an Enemy: Obama, Iran and the Triumph of Diplomacy (Yale University Press, 2017), which reveals the behind the scenes story to the historic nuclear deal with Iran. Parsi advised the Obama White House on the nuclear talks. His articles on Middle East affairs have been published in the Washington Post, Wall Street Journal, New York Times, Los Angeles Times, Financial Times, Jane’s Intelligence Review, the Nation, The American Conservative, the Jerusalem Post, The Forward, and others. He is a frequent guest on CNN, PBS’s Newshour, NPR, the BBC, and Al Jazeera.