
From: Trita Parsi [tparsi@jhu.edu]
Sent: Tuesday, November 15, 2005 1:33 PM
To: 'Siamak Namazi'; 'ksadj@yahoo.com'
Subject: RE: tomorrow

Siamak – I have caught the flu, but will do my best to attend. Will let you know how I feel tomorrow. I am fine with the format and venue

From: Siamak Namazi [mailto:siamakn@ned.org]
Sent: Tuesday, November 15, 2005 3:27 PM
To: Hadi Semati; tparsi@jhu.edu; ksadj@yahoo.com
Subject: tomorrow

Gentlemen,

So, here's the plan for tomorrow. We meet at 1:30 sharp (even for you Karim). Regarding the venue, Trita and Karim to decide whether they prefer NED or Wilson Center, since Hadi and I would obviously prefer to stay put. In general, Hadi's office is bigger and the Wilson Center has nice couches where we can also sit and talk, if you prefer. But, NED is closer to you two...

Format: I suggest we discuss two issues tomorrow, each for roughly 30 minutes: (1) The nuclear file; (2) the domestic struggle for power – Is the system really worried about A-N?

After this discussion/update, we move to think through, collectively, what we think the US/EU should do in response to these issues? Again, we might have disagreements, which is fine. But, if we can develop a list of 3 main points that we all believe in, it would be great; we can all make sure to make these points at various venues.

Hopefully, if this small study group continues, we could meet once a month to update one another on news of Iran and fine tune our policy recs. The first meeting is a bit tricky since there are so many topics. In the future, perhaps we can come up with one single issue, and one person can assume the responsibility of giving a 10 min brief on it, then others enter the discussion by taking time.

Over all, I would think that these meetings have 3 main purposes:

- 1- To get this group to bring to the table their various pieces of the puzzle so that we all see a clearer picture of what is happening in/about Iran;
- 2- To develop a common list of policy recommendation to enhance our ability to influence decision-makers;
- 3- To help "train" people like Haghightajoo who will get a lot of attention but don't nec have a good understanding of how things work in the USA

With due respect to seniority, I hope Hadi accepts to Chair the session tomorrow and basically kick-start the discussions.

If you like, we can take 10 mins in the beginning to discuss the best format too.

So, Trita, Karim – please confirm the preferred venue.

Hadi – please see if Haghightajoo is interested in joining in.

Cheers,
sia

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