THE PLIGHT OF THE UYGHURS: MASS INTERNMENT IN WESTERN CHINA

RUSHAN ABBAS
Founder and Director, Campaign for Uyghurs

AARON L. FRIEDBERG
Professor of Politics and International Affairs, Princeton University

ADRIAN ZENZ
Senior Fellow in China Studies, Victims of Communism Memorial Foundation

Moderated by
F. FLAGG TAYLOR
Associate Professor of Political Science, Skidmore College

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Wednesday,
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4:30 - 6:00 p.m.
Maeder Auditorium
Andlinger Center for Energy and the Environment
**RUSHAN ABBAS** is the Founder and Director of Campaign for Uyghurs, which she founded in 2017 to promote human rights and democratic freedoms for Uyghurs and to mobilize the international community to act to stop the human rights atrocity in East Turkistan. She was a co-founder and the vice president of the Uyghur Overseas Student and Scholars Association and has served as vice president of the Uyghur American Association. When Radio Free Asia launched Uyghur service in 1998, Ms. Abbas was the first Uyghur reporter broadcasting daily to the Uyghur region. She has over 15 years of experience in global business development, international relations, and government affairs throughout the Middle East, Africa, CIS regions, Europe, Asia, Australia, North America, and Latin America. She also has extensive experience working with U.S. government agencies, including the Departments of Homeland Security, Defense, State, Justice, and various U.S. intelligence agencies. She began her activism as a student, participating in the pro-democracy demonstrations at Xinjiang University in 1985 and 1988.

**AARON L. FRIEDBERG** is Professor of Politics and International Affairs and Co-Director of the Woodrow Wilson School’s Center for International Security Studies at Princeton University. He is also a non-resident Senior Fellow at the German Marshall Fund of the United States and a Senior Advisor to the National Bureau of Asian Research. He is the author or co-editor of several books including *A Contest for Supremacy: China, America and the Struggle for Mastery in Asia* (2011), which has been translated into Japanese, Chinese, and Korean. His articles and essays have appeared in a number of publications, including *The Wall Street Journal, The New York Times, The Washington Post, The Los Angeles Times, Commentary, The National Interest, The American Interest, The Weekly Standard, Foreign Affairs, The Washington Quarterly, Survival*, and *International Security*. In 2001-02 he was selected as the first occupant of the Henry A. Kissinger Chair at the Library of Congress. He has served as Deputy Assistant for National Security Affairs in the office of the Vice President, on the Defense Policy Board, and on the Secretary of State’s Advisory Committee on Democracy Promotion. He is a member of the International Institute for Strategic Studies and the Council on Foreign Relations. He received his A.B. and his Ph.D. from Harvard University.

**ADRIAN ZENZ** is Senior Fellow in China Studies for the Victims of Communism Memorial Foundation and supervises Ph.D. students at the European School of Culture and Theology, Korntal, Germany. His research focus is on China’s ethnic policy and public recruitment in Tibet and Xinjiang. He is author of *Tibetanness under Threat* (2013) and co-editor (with Jarmila Ptackova) of *Mapping Amdo: Dynamics of Change* (2017). He received his Ph.D. from the University of Cambridge and a M.A. in Development Studies from the University of Auckland, New Zealand.

**F. FLAGG TAYLOR** is Associate Professor of Political Science and Director of the Honors Forum at Skidmore College. He teaches courses on the history of political philosophy, totalitarianism and dissent, and executive power and constitutional law. He is co-author of *The Contested Removal Power, 1789-2010* (2013) and editor of *The Long Night of the Watchman: Essays by Václav Benda, 1977-1989* (2018), *Totalitarianism on Screen: The Art and Politics of The Lives of Others* (2014, with Carl Eric Scott), and *The Great Lie: Classic and Recent Appraisals of Ideology and Totalitarianism* (2011). He is a member of the Academic Council of the Victims of Communism Memorial Foundation and was a 2018-19 James Madison Program Visiting Fellow. A graduate of Kenyon College, he received his M.A. and Ph.D. from Fordham University.