Afghanistan Post 2014: Challenges, Opportunities and the Way Forward

Special Lecture

The Honorable Nasir Ahmad Andisha

Ambassador of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan to the Commonwealth of Australia, New Zealand and the Republic of Fiji

September 19
7:30 p.m.
Maurer School of Law
Room 213

Supported by:

The Center on American and Global Security

The ANU-IU Pan Asia Institute

For further information contact panasia@iu.edu

Aside from the grim pictures featured in international media, 12 years after the removal of Al-Qaeda and its supporting Taliban regime, Afghanistan has witnessed enormous progress unparalleled in its history. Today, Afghanistan has the most progressive constitution in the region, a capable army and police, a multi-party and diverse parliament, a free and vibrant media, a young and unrelenting civil society and above all 8 million young Afghan girls and boys attending schools and universities.

However, faced with two transitions (security and political), an ambiguous peace process, and an aid-driven declining economy, Afghanistan is also at a critical juncture in her modern history. The end of the combat mission and withdrawal of US/NATO forces in 2014 will mark the completion of the security transition to the Afghan National Security Forces. A successful political transition requires conducting a free and credible election next April and positive steps on the peace and reconciliation process.

Ambassador Nasir Andisha will speak about the current challenges and opportunities in Afghanistan and will base his remarks, in part, on his doctoral dissertation research at the Australian National University. Ambassador Andisha will also touch upon possible long-term foreign policy options for his country.

Ambassador Nasir Ahmad Andisha

Nasir Ahmad Andisha is the Ambassador of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan to the Commonwealth of Australia, New Zealand and the Republic of Fiji. Prior to his appointment as Ambassador to Australia, Mr. Andisha was the Director General of the Fifth Political Division (US, Canada, Australia and New Zealand) from 2009 to 2011 at the Afghan Ministry of Foreign Affairs and from 2006 to 2007 he was the Director of Multilateral Economic Relations and International Financial Institutions. Earlier, he worked as the Chief of Staff for the Deputy Foreign Minister (2005-06).

Mr. Andisha has also worked at the Energy Charter Secretariat in Brussels as a consultant and in 2008 he briefly served the Permanent Mission of Afghanistan at the U.N. Headquarters in New York City. Before joining the Foreign Service, Ambassador Andisha worked with the International Committee of Red Cross as a field officer. He also taught International Relations and Principles of Economics at Institute of Diplomacy of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Afghanistan.

In summer of 2007, Ambassador Andisha received a Fulbright Scholarship and completed his master degree in international at The George H. Bush School of Government and Public Services in Texas A&M University. He later finished Advanced Security Studies Diploma from the Marshall Centre for European Studies in Garmisch-Germany and Asia Pacific Centre for Security Studies in Hawaii, USA. He also attended the Executive Education Program in the Kennedy School of Government in Harvard University.

He is fluent in Farsi/Dari, Pashto and English and possesses basic fluency in French and Arabic. Ambassador Andisha is married. He and his wife have two children.