Thursday, November 5, 2026

From the Middle East to the Midwest: Tracking electoral, economic, and security impacts of the Iran War

Woolsey Hall, Fidelity Bank Ballroom, Wichita State University

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6:00 pm – Social hour & Cash Bar
6:30 pm – Dinner
7:25 pm – Introductions
7:30 pm – Tracking electoral, economic, and security impacts of the Iran War — Ms. Mara Rudman, Distinguished Speaker
8:00 pm – Discussion / Questions / Adjourn

Sponsored by the Wichita Committee on Foreign Relations

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Social, Dinner & Presentation

Reservations Required: RESERVE & SEND money through Paypal:
https://www.paypal.com/ncp/payment/BSHMKFU4XXZXE

Nov 5, 2026 Dinner Program - Middle East & Midwest

For check payments, email **programs@wtcouncil.com**

Walk-ins without prior reservations not accepted—all registrations need valid Member ID

Registrations will close on Monday, November 2, 5pm

Bio: Ms. Mara Rudman

Senior Fellow, Miller Center of Public Affairs, University of Virginia

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Ms. Mara Rudman

Senior Fellow, Miller Center of Public Affairs, University of Virginia

Mara Rudman is a practitioner senior fellow at the University of Virginia's Miller Center of Public Affairs. She previously served a term there as James R. Schlesinger Distinguished Professor and directed the Ripples of Hope Project, which seeks practical approaches to help democratic leaders resolve key challenges. She served on the 2022 National Defense Strategy Commission, is a member of the Board of Visitors of Howard University's College of Arts and Sciences, and consults for Democracy Forward.

Over two administrations she held senior national security and diplomatic posts. In the Obama administration she was deputy assistant to the president and executive secretary of the National Security Council in 2009, deputy special envoy for Middle East peace at the State Department from 2009 to 2011, and assistant administrator for the Middle East at USAID in 2011; in the Clinton administration she also served as deputy assistant to the president. The Senate confirmed her as a USAID assistant administrator on September 13, 2011. Earlier, she was chief counsel to the House Foreign Affairs Committee.

Outside government, she has been executive vice president for policy at the Center for American Progress and senior vice president for policy/projects at Business Executives for National Security, and led Quorum Strategies, a geopolitical advisory firm. She was also general counsel for The Cohen Group. She is a 2002 Henry Crown Fellow in the Aspen Global Leadership Network and a member of the Council on Foreign Relations. She is a frequent commentator on television and radio and has written for and been quoted in numerous print publications. She holds a BA from Dartmouth College and a law degree from Harvard Law School.