

News from the Foundation for Democracy in Iran
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April 28, 2010: State Department to approve Ahmadinejad visa for next week. The State Department has confirmed reports that the Islamic Republic has applied for visa so that Ahmadinejad and a delegation can travel to New York next week to attend the Nonproliferation Treaty review conference on May 3 (go to www.iran.org for the full report).

Meanwhile, conferees from the U.S. Senate and the House of Representatives began negotiations today aimed at finalizing the Comprehensive Iran Sanctions, Accountability, and Divestment Act of 2009 (H.R. 2194). The Obama administration has "kept this legislation bottled up in Congress" for over a year," a senior Republican leader told FDI today.

Rep. Ileana Ros-Lehtinen (R, Fla), the original Republican sponsor of the bill, warned against producing a bill "that is so full of holes, carve-outs, exemptions, or waivers that no one takes it seriously." Instead, she urged her colleagues "to fill the vacuum created by Executive Branch inaction and enact crippling, mandatory sanctions that address the rapidly growing threat posed by Iran."

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