

Salt Lake Committee on Foreign Relations

A Member of the American Committee on Foreign Relations

Wednesday – October 11, 2017
6PM Social – 7PM Dinner – 8PM Presentation

The Alta Club – 100 East South Temple

Complementary parking is available on north side of South Temple, east of the Eagle Gate apartments. Valet service available after 6pm

America's Longest War: Lessons learned and the way forward in Afghanistan



Our guest speaker is Omar Samad. He served as the Afghan Ambassador to Canada from 2004 to 2009, and to France from 2009 to 2011. He was a Senior Central Asia Fellow at the [New America Foundation](#) in [Washington, D.C.](#) 2013-14, after working as Senior Afghan Expert at the United States Institute of Peace in Washington D.C. 2012-13. He is currently CEO of SILKROAD CONSULTING LLC and former Senior Advisor to Dr. A. Abdullah, the Chief Executive of Afghanistan since 2014.

Samad graduated from [American University](#) in [Washington D.C.](#), where he received a Bachelor of Arts degree in Communications and International Affairs in 1991. He received a Master's degree in International Relations (GMAP) from [The Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy](#) at [Tufts University](#) in [Massachusetts](#) in 2006.

Throughout the 1980s and 1990s, he advocated for freedom and democracy in Afghanistan. In 1996, he launched Azadi Afghan Radio and its website as part of the Afghanistan Information Center, based in [Virginia](#). Following the September 11th attacks, he worked as a commentator and analyst for [CNN](#) during the Bonn Accords on Afghanistan.

He was accredited as the first Afghan non-resident Ambassador to the [Chile](#) (2008) and Principality of [Monaco](#) (2010). During his diplomatic career (2001 to 2011), he was a member of Afghan delegations to the UN, NAM, Islamic Conferences and specialized conferences on Afghanistan, including the Tokyo (2002) and Berlin (2004) reconstruction conferences. He represented the Foreign Ministry on the Tripartite Security Commission with Afghanistan-US-Pakistan. He was Afghanistan Senior Expert in residence at the [United States Institute of Peace](#) in [Washington, D.C.](#) from January 2012 till January 2013.

Please RSVP by 3pm Monday October 9, by one of the following; reply to this email; phone Kathryn Horvat (801) 502-0708, or email at kbhorvat@comcast.net. Reservations made after deadline will be taken for speaker only. Please leave your name and the number in your party. Vegetarian meal is available, advise with RSVP. **Please cancel reservations by 3pm on Monday October 9, if you know you will not be attending the meeting.** You are responsible for your own and guests fees if you do not attend after making reservations.

Dinner fees; Member \$37, Guests \$45.

Local website: www.slcf.org

National website: www.acfr.org