

**Samuel Dash Conference on Human Rights**  
"Constitutional Checks and Balances in the Post-9/11 Era:  
Revitalizing Congress's Role"



Samuel Dash

Tuesday, February 13, 2007, 9:30 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

**All events except lunch will be held at:**

Georgetown University Law Center  
McDonough Hall – Hart Auditorium  
600 New Jersey Avenue, NW  
Washington, D.C. 20001

**Lunch will be held at:**

Georgetown University Law Center  
Gewirz Student Center – 12th Floor  
120 F Street, NW  
Washington, D.C. 20001

**SCHEDULE:**

**9:30 - 9:35 a.m.**

*Welcome and Opening Remarks*

**T. Alexander Aleinikoff**, Dean, Georgetown University Law Center

**9:35 – 10:30 a.m.**

*Revitalizing Congress's Role in Safeguarding Security and Human Rights: Challenges and Opportunities*

**Sen. Patrick Leahy** (D-Vt.), Georgetown Law Class of 1964

**10:30 – 11:40 a.m.**

*Ambition Countering Ambition: What Has Happened to Congress in Our System of Checks and Balances, and How Can Its Role Be Strengthened?*

**Jane E. Stromseth**, Director, Human Rights Institute; Professor of Law, Georgetown University Law Center (moderator)

**Mickey Edwards**, Executive Director, Aspen Institute Rodel Fellowships in Public Leadership; Lecturer, Woodrow Wilson School of Public and International Affairs; and Former Member of

Congress (R-Okla.)

**Thomas E. Mann**, W. Averell Harriman Chair and Senior Fellow, Brookings Institution; Co-author, "The Broken Branch: How Congress Is Failing America and How to Get It Back on Track" (Oxford University Press, 2006)

**Norman J. Ornstein**, Resident Scholar, American Enterprise Institute; Co-author, "The Broken Branch: How Congress Is Failing America and How to Get It Back on Track" (Oxford University Press, 2006)

**11:50 a.m. – 1:20 p.m.**

**Lunch**

*Issues and Challenges Facing the Congress in Asserting Its Role in Our System of Checks and Balances*

**Sen. Arlen Specter** (R-Pa.)

**1:30 – 3:00 p.m.**

*Security, Human Rights, and War Powers in the Post-9/11 Era: What Should We Expect from Congress*

**Nina Pillard**, Professor of Law, Georgetown University Law Center (moderator)

**David Abramowitz**, Chief Counsel, House Committee on Foreign Affairs

**Martin Lederman**, Visiting Professor of Law, Georgetown University Law Center

**Elisa Massimino**, Washington Director, Human Rights First

**William H. Taft IV**, Of Counsel, Fried Frank; Former Legal Adviser, U.S. Department of State

**NOTE:**

This is the second annual Samuel Dash Conference on Human Rights. It is sponsored by the [Human Rights Institute](#) at Georgetown Law.

The annual Samuel Dash Conference on Human Rights was established by Samuel Dash's family and friends, Georgetown Law alumni and the law firm of Cozen O'Connor to honor Dash's contributions to international human rights and domestic civil rights.

Dash, who joined the Georgetown Law faculty in 1965, and was on the board of the International League of Human Rights, traversed the globe in pursuit of justice. He led a human rights mission to Northern Ireland to investigate the 1972 "Bloody Sunday" incident, and traveled to the Soviet Union and Chile. In 1985, he was the first American to visit Nelson Mandela in prison and became involved in mediation efforts that eventually led to Mandela's release.

Dash also served as chief counsel of the Senate Watergate Committee's investigation into the Nixon administration's involvement in the Democratic National Committee break-in, which ultimately led to President Nixon's resignation.

Dash died in 2004.