**Dr. Fariba Parsa**

**4305 A Ramona Drive**

**Fairfax Virginia, 22030**

 **Email fparsa@gmu.edu**

**Phone: 617-893-0365**

**Education**

* PhD. in Social Sciences: Institute for Society and Globalization, Roskilde University, Denmark, 2008: The dissertation was about the ideological antagonism between two Islamic groups of conservatives and reformists in Iran on the concept Democracy and freedom of speech
* M.A. in Political Science: Institute of Political Science, University of Copenhagen, The these was about the philosophical conflicts between Islam and human rights, discussed in Iran, 1996

**Research Experiences**

* Visiting scholar at George Mason University, School for Conflict Analysis and Resolution, (October 2013- Iranian women’s activism and socio-political transformation
* Visiting Scholar, University of Maryland, Department for Women’s Studies, College Park, research on social media and political- social changes in Iran and in Egypt (May 2013-December 2013)
* Visiting scholar University of Maryland, Roshan Center for Persian Studies, College Park, Research on political challenges for women’s leadership in Iran, (Iranian women’s movement for gender equality) ( September 2012-May 2013)
* Post doctoral fellow, Harvard University, Center for Middle Eastern Studies. I did research about the concept, “secularism”, from a philosophical, historic and political views in Iran, (September 2010- August 2012)

**Teaching experiences**

###### Roskilde University, Denmark, part time lecturer and supervisor for students’ research projects with related topic on “women and democracy in the Middle East”, 2009-2010

###### The Danish Institute for Human Rights: (September-December 2002;

###### Supervisor for students affiliated to the Institute, research paper on human rights and religious diversity

* University of Copenhagen, (September-December 1999), part time lecturing on ”Human/women Rights and Islam”, one term courses for graduate students

**List of publications**

**Book**

# *Confronting Islamic Ideologies in Iran*, Lambert Academic Publishing, Germany: published July 2011

# Book chapter

# Iranian women’s fight against gender discrimination lacks clear vision”, in Mariam M Kurtz and Lester R. Kurtz, (eds.) *Women, War and Violence,* California University Press. Will be published in November 2014.

# Women’s power strategies for female Leadership in Iran. Edited Linda Ellis Eastman, CEO, The Professinal Women Network, PWN, USA, the book is titiled: *Women’s Power Strategies for Female Leadership*. Will be Published in August 2014

#  Journal

#  ”Women and Democracy in Iran”, 23th of conference of theIranian women’s studies Foundation. Will come July 2013

# The Islamic Republic of Iran and the idea of secularism. Persian, English on line Journal Imagofemine : <http://imagofeminae.com/politik-2/index.html>

* “*Islam og Menneskerettigheder*,” (1997) (translation: Islam and Human Rights), Nordic Journal of Human Rights, University of Oslo, nr. 2, November, p. 154-167.

# Book Reviews

* Uichol Kim, Henriette Sinding Aasen & Shrin Ebadi (eds.) *Democracy, Human Rights, and Islam in Modern Iran: Psychological, Social, and Cultural Perspectives,* 2004, Nordic Journal of Human Rights, 3:2004, p. 371-373.
* Lauri Hannikainen and Sayed Kazem Saiiadpour, (eds.) *Dialogue Among Civilizations: The Case of Finnish- Iranian Human Rights Experts Dialogue*, 2002. Nordic Journal of Human Rights, Vol. 22, nr. 2:2004, p. 233-236.

# University Periodical

* “*Menneskerettigheds filosofi i den iranske Islam,”* (1999) (translation: The Philosophy of Human Rights in the Islamic Iran), periodical, “Samiramis,” no. 6, Carsten Niebuhr Institute, Copenhagen University

**Media Citations and Interviews**

* Danish media, TV, radio and several newspapers, on the issue of Iranian politics and Islam, during years 2006-2010

**Experiences with lecturing at conferences and public speeches**

* School for conflict Analysis and Resolution, May 6, 2014. Presenting, “ Strategies for women power leadership in Iran.”
* Women and Gender Studies, George Mason University, Conference May 3, 2014 “Women activism on social media and political social transformation.”
* Jewish women community in DC, Hadassah, Public Speech titled “Iranian women are changing the country”, February 10, 2014
* University of Maryland, Department of Women’s Studies, Speech, “Women’s activism, social media and socio-political changes in Iran” December 6, 2013
* American Association for University Women in Maryland, Public Speech, “Women’s movement for democracy in Iran”, October 19, 2013
* University of Maryland, Roshan Center for Persian Studies. Public speech, presenting Iranian women’s movement for gender equality.”, April 26, 2013
* George Mason University, International Conference, “Gender and Conflict” presenting a paper about Iranian women and challenges for political leadership, April 11-13, 3013
* International conference, Foundation of Iranian Women's Studies MIT, Cambridge, " Women and democracy in Iran", June 17, 2012
* Harvard University, Center for Middle Eastern Studies, “Diverse meanings of secularism in Iran”, November 16, 2011
* Harvard University, Center for Middle Eastern Studies, “Emerging secularism in Iran”, March, 2011
* University of Bonn, Germany, 16 Congress of DAVO, presenting a paper: “Women and Democratization in Iran,” 8-10 October 2009
* Aalborg University, International Conference; presenting a paper: “Iranian women and politics; past, present and future,” 13-15 May, 2009
* Exeter University, UK, BISA Conference, presenting a paper. “Ideological conflict in Iran,” 15-17 December 2008
* Roskilde University, Denmark, (presenting a paper and chair a panel), “Discourse analysis and Ideologies,” 8-10 September 2008

**Experiences on initiate, coordinate, and implementing: Political position at National and grassroots organizations**

* Initiate “Iranian Women Working Group” at George Mason University, will be a group under Women and Gender Studies, Feb 2014-
* National Council of Women in Denmark; include about 70 women organizations. I was elected to the board,, 2006-2008, initiate, fundraising, advocacy, lobbying with politicians
* National Committee of UNESCO in Denmark: Member of the board, I was represent for the National Council of Women in Denmark, 2006-2008, advocacy, policy making
* UNA of Denmark: I was elected to the board of executive committee, and the committee for Human Rights, 1996-2000, initiate, coordinate and implement events
* Euro-Mediterranean Human Rights Network: Representative member for UNA of Denmark, 1999-2000, working on establishing a women committee, advocacy for women’s rights.
* Danish NGO (Mellemfolkeligt Samvirke, MS): A major NGO with more than 100 employees in Denmark and in developing countries connect grassroots from Denmark and around the world. I was elected to the board and I was chairperson for the committee for Ethnic Minorities, 1996-1998
* National Council for Human Rights in Denmark: Member of the council, represented for the Danish NGO, (MS), 1996-1998
* Co-Founder of Iranian-Danish Women Association, 1991, organizing events. Networking, lobbying, fundraising,

**Fellowship and Awards**

* Postdoctoral Awards for Professional Development Harvard University FAS Division of Science 2012
* Postdoctoral Fellow at Harvard University, Center for Middle Eastern Studies 2010-2012
* Danish Ministry of Foreign Affair, Danida, Grant for doctoral research
* Visiting Scholar, Columbia University, New York, 2000-2001

**Language**

* Persian Native language
* Danish same as native language
* English proficiency
* German understand, limited conversation

**Referee**

* Professor Sandra Cheldelin, Center for study of Gender and Conflict, at the school of conflict analysis and resolution, George Mason University, email. scheldel@gmu.edu, Phone number: 703-993-3652
* Professor Fatemeh Keshavarz, Director Roshan Center for Persian Studies, University of Maryland, College Park, MD. Email fkk@umd.edu, Phone number 301- 405- 2735
* Director Carol Kolenik, Harvard University, Cambridge, MA, email carol\_kolenik@harvard.edu, phone number: 617-495-2535