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# Tauscher: Both carrot and stick needed with Iran

*~ Belgian Defense Minister De Crem: Takes effort to be part of NATO ~*

**HALIFAX**, Canada (November 22, 2009) – Ellen Tauscher, U.S. under secretary of state for arms control and international security, said Sunday that a carrot-and-stick approach is needed with Iran.

“Persuasion for persuasion’s sake is fine if you understand what to do if it’s rejected,” Tauscher said, speaking at the Halifax International Security Forum, a high-level international security conference that wrapped up Sunday after three days of discussions on a wide range of security issues. “If the Iranians continue to reject our persuasion route, we have to go to pressure because we cannot sustain what they’re doing.

“If they are exactly doing what we’re worried they are doing, which is playing for time, we have got to then move to something that causes that to be painful.”

Stephen Hadley, the former national security advisor for George W. Bush, said that the Obama administration, like its predecessors, operationally faces the same dilemmas and the same challenges with Iran and also North Korea. “They are doing what they are doing [because] either they are concerned about their security or they want to impose their will on their neighbors,” Hadley said.

Tauscher and Hadley were joined on a panel by Camille Grand, executive director at the Foundation for Strategic Research, and Tsuneo "Nabe" Watanabe, a senior fellow at the Tokyo Foundation.

The Halifax International Security Forum was organized by the German Marshall Fund of the United States, with support from the Government of Canada, the Atlantic Canada Opportunities Agency, and the Department of National Defense.

The Forum wrapped up with a panel on the future of NATO. "Solidarity has to be a living part of the alliance," said panelist Pauline Neville-Jones, Britain's shadow security minister.

Neville-Jones was joined on the panel by Belgian Defense Minister Pieter De Crem, Christian Schmidt, the German parliamentary state secretary of defense, and Bruce Jackson, president of the Project on Transitional Democracies.

To meet the challenges of NATO militarily, members first will need to resolve the alliance's operational funding issues, a point particularly emphasized by both De Crem and Neville-Jones. "It's not only an advantage to be part of NATO but it takes effort," De Crem said.

Ruprecht Polenz, chairman of the Committee on Foreign Affairs in the German Parliament, who spoke on an earlier panel on Iran, said that the West needs to do everything to keep Iran from acquiring nuclear weapons.

"I think the European Union missed [an opportunity] to endorse sanctions after the [Iran] demonstrations were pushed down with violence," Polenz said. "We missed a signal with very targeted sanctions on those who violate human rights, basic human rights."

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*The Halifax International Security Forum is a high-level meeting that brings together leaders from around the world in politics, military, government, business, academia, and media. Over three days, more than 300 participants take part in an intellectual, interactive exchange on pressing strategic issues. The Halifax International Security Forum provides a unique venue for thought-leaders and policymakers to discuss such issues as nuclear proliferation, Arctic security, the conflict in Afghanistan, and maritime security.*

*The Halifax International Security Forum is organized by the German Marshall Fund of the United States ([www.gmfus.org](http://www.gmfus.org)) in cooperation with the Government of Canada, the Department of National Defence, and the Atlantic Canada Opportunities Agency. This major international conference – the first of its kind in North America – is being held November 20-22, 2009, in Halifax, Nova Scotia.*

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