

For the last 50 years, the Dalai Lama, the Tibetan government in exile and the international Tibet support movement have sought an end to the suffering of the Tibetan people and to achieve, if not full self-determination, then at least some degree of freedom for them. During this time period the world has changed in many dramatic ways. In particular, the rise of China as a world power, the economic interests of the West in China, and the time factor all seem to work against the Tibetan aspirations. At the same time, the changing consciousness in China, developments in international law, and the persistent clout and efforts of the Tibet movement may provide improved opportunities to make progress. Dr. Van Walt will discuss recent developments, including the International Court of Justice's ruling on Kosovo, and explore current challenges and future opportunities for the Tibetan people.

Challenges and Opportunities for Tibet in a Changing World

Michael Van Walt

Executive President of the international peace and mediation group Khredda

Sunday, November 21, 2010, 4:00 PM

Doors open at 3:30pm

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Michael Van Walt currently serves as Executive President of Kreddha - an international peace council for states, peoples and minorities - and is Legal Advisor to the Office of H.H. The Dalai Lama. From 1991 to 1998 he was General Secretary of UNPO, the Unrepresented Nations and Peoples Organization. Dr. Van Walt's published writings include The Implementation of the Right to Self-Determination as a Contribution to Conflict Prevention and The Status of Tibet: History, Rights and Prospects in International Law.

