

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## USICD Announces 2025 Award Honorees for the Dole-Harkin and International Advocate Awards

**Washington, D.C. July 14, 2025** — The United States International Council on Disabilities (USICD) is proud to announce the recipients of its 2025 Dole-Harkin and International Advocate Awards, which will be presented at the annual gala in celebration of the **International Day of Persons with Disabilities** in early December.

**The Dole-Harkin Award** will be presented to **Cara Yar Khan**, a visionary international disability rights advocate whose career has spanned humanitarian action, diplomacy, entrepreneurship, and storytelling. From her service as a White House appointee and senior advisor on international disability rights at the U.S. Department of State to her current work advising on disability-inclusive investment initiatives with the Global Disability Innovation Hub, Cara continues to push boundaries across sectors and continents. Her firm, The Purple Practice, helps scale impact partnerships, and her TED Talk, *The beautiful balance between courage and fear*, has inspired millions worldwide. She is also a filmmaker and a passionate force for inclusion in the arts and media.



*Cara Yar Khan*

**The International Advocate Award** will be presented to **Dr. Mina Mojtahedi**, in recognition of her decades-long global leadership advancing disability inclusion across international development, humanitarian action, and sport. Dr. Mojtahedi is receiving the award in her personal capacity. Her distinguished career has included roles with the Ministry for Foreign Affairs of Finland, the International Committee of the Red Cross, and the Finnish Paralympic Committee. She is a Paralympian, published researcher, and respected mentor to emerging leaders in sport and social justice.



*Dr. Mina Mojtahedi*

USICD is honored to recognize these two trailblazers whose work exemplifies the global pursuit of dignity, equity, and inclusion for persons with disabilities.

Additional details about the gala and award presentations will be announced soon.