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Film academy troubled by possible visa ban of Oscar nominee

Description

Posted by Larry Gleeson

From The Associated Press

BEVERLY HILLS, Calif. â?? The motion picture academy calls â??extremely troubling,â?• the possible visa ban of Iranian director Asghar Farhadi, whose feature film â??The Salesmanâ?• is nominated for a best foreign language Oscar.

In a statement released Saturday, the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences expressed concern that Farhadi and his cast and crew may not be permitted to attend next monthâ??s Oscar ceremony in Los Angeles following President Trumpâ??s plan to temporarily suspend issuing visas for people from Iran and six other Muslim countries.

Farhadi has not commented on his travel plans, but on Friday, the president of the National Iranian American Council, Trita Parsi, tweeted: â??Confirmed: Iranâ??s Asghar Farhadi wonâ??t be let into the US to attend Oscarâ??s.â?•

On Thursday, Iranian actress Taraneh Alidoosti, star of the â??The Salesman,â?• tweeted she would boycott the Oscars â?? whether allowed to attend or not â?? in protest of Trumpâ??s immigration policies, which she called â??racist.â?•

In its statement Saturday, the academy said, â??As supporters of filmmakers â?? and the human rights of all people â?? around the globe, we find it extremely troubling that Asghar Farhadi, the director of the Oscar-winning film from Iran â??A Separation,â?? along with the cast and crew of this yearâ??s Oscar-nominated film â??The Salesman,â?? could be barred from entering the country because of their religion or country of origin.â?•

*__Featured photo:__ This May 21, 2016 file photo shows actress Taraneh Alidoosti during a photo call for the film â??Forushandeâ?• (The Salesman) at the 69th international film festival, Cannes, southern France. Alidoosti, star of the Oscar-nominated â??The Salesman,â?• says she wonâ??t attend the Academy Awards in protest of President Donald Trumpâ??s immigration plans. Alidoosti called plans for a visa ban of Iranians â??racistâ?• in a message posted Thursday, Jan. 26, 2017, on Twitter. â??The Salesman,â?• directed by Asghar Farhadi, was nominated for best foreign language film. Joel Ryan, File AP Photo

(Source: bnd.com)

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