



**Julie L. Arostegui, J.D.**, is a lawyer and international human rights and gender expert with extensive experience in peace and security, combating gender-based violence, countering violent extremism, women's political participation, rule of law, access to justice, and security sector reform. She serves as an international advocate, advisor, trainer, speaker, researcher, and writer for the civil society, political, security, and justice sectors.

Julie most recently led the Women, Peace and Security program at Women's Action for New Directions (WAND), working to empower women politically both in the U.S. and in Afghanistan, Pakistan, and the Middle East and North Africa as leaders on critical issues of conflict prevention, peace building, violence against women, and national and global security. She also works with Members of Congress, federal agencies, and the United Nations to ensure that women and gender perspectives are included in diplomatic, development, and defense efforts in line with international and U.S. policy.

As an international advocate Julie works with domestic groups to build local capacity, strengthen institutions, create legal frameworks, build awareness, and share global best practices. In recent years she worked with groups in the Great Lakes region of Africa to integrate gender equality and women's rights into post-conflict legal structures in order to further the women, peace and security framework. Julie has managed programs related to gender, women's rights, and the rule of law in Africa, Asia, the Middle East and North Africa, Eastern Europe and Latin America, and has advised, trained, and published extensively on gender, women's rights, human rights, international human rights law, women, peace and security, gender-based violence, and human trafficking, with audiences including judges, legal practitioners, law enforcement, military, government, social workers, religious and cultural leaders and civil society. She has also been a policy advisor on disability issues.

Julie has worked with the U.S. Institute of Peace, Women in International Security (WIIS), George C. Marshall Center for Security Studies, Stockholm International Peace Research Institute, National Defense University, National Democratic Institute (NDI), Freedom House, International Association of Women Judges, American Association of People with Disabilities, Internews, and the National Underground Railroad Freedom Center/Partnership for Human Freedom. Julie holds a J.D. in international human rights law from the University of Cincinnati College of Law and a Masters in International Relations and Communications from the Universidad Complutense of Madrid, Spain. She completed her undergraduate studies at Brandeis University.