

Ali Gostanian

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PROFESSIONAL SUMMARY

Director of the *I Believe Israeli Women* initiative at Jewish Women International, leading global efforts to counter the denial of conflict-related sexual violence, elevate survivor-centered advocacy and strengthen coalitions across campuses, communities and international partners. Policy practitioner with deep expertise in Israel and the Middle East, grounded in years of investigative reporting on geopolitical crises, foreign influence operations and digital misinformation. Brings strong research, OSINT and human rights analysis skills, with a track record of translating complex events into clear, evidence-based insights that support advocacy, mobilization and policy engagement.

EDUCATION

Johns Hopkins University School of Advanced International Studies (Washington, D.C.)

Master of International Public Policy (May 2025) | GPA: 3.96, *Graduated with Honors*

- Focus: Security, Strategy & Statecraft; Governance, Politics & Society
- Regional Expertise: Middle East & United States
- Developed skills in policy analysis, strategic communications and geopolitical risk assessment, focusing on international security, disinformation and governance.

Fordham University (Bronx, NY)

Bachelor of Arts – Communications & Media Studies, Journalism, Business Administration (May 2015) | GPA: 3.62, *Cum Laude*

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Jewish Women International (Washington, D.C.)

Director, [I Believe Israeli Women](#) (December 2025 – present)

- Lead the global strategy to counter denial of conflict-related sexual violence, advance survivor-centered advocacy and strengthen international engagement.
- Build and coordinate a coalition of ambassadors, NGOs and partner organizations, aligning campaigns, events and policy efforts across communities and institutions.
- Develop research-based resources and advocacy materials that translate complex CRSV findings into clear, actionable insights for partners and policymakers.
- Oversee participation in global convenings, including UN and international policy forums, and support high-level advocacy with governments and human rights bodies.

Johns Hopkins University School of Advanced International Studies (Washington, D.C.)

[Consultant & Researcher](#), Human Rights Law & Environmental Policy (Aug. 2024 – May 2025)

- Conducted legal and policy research on international human rights and environmental governance, translating complex findings into accessible insights.
- Participated in a fact-finding mission to Jordan and engaged with government ministries, NGOs and civil society partners to assess policy challenges.
- Co-authored a comprehensive [policy report](#) integrating case studies, international frameworks and stakeholder interviews.
- Synthesized UN and NGO materials into actionable recommendations for policymakers, supporting cross-sector collaboration and advocacy.

Walmart (Washington, D.C.)

Graduate Consultant, Public Affairs & Public Policy (Nov. 2024 – Feb. 2025)

- Developed a strategic public health and awareness framework informed by qualitative and quantitative research across Walmart markets.

- Coordinated with internal teams and advocacy organizations to align messaging and build support for public policy recommendations.
- Designed an influencer and social media engagement strategy to increase consumer awareness and reach at-risk populations.
- Presented data-driven insights and recommendations to senior executives and policy stakeholders to inform decision-making.

NBC News (New York, NY)

Senior Reporter & Producer / Weekend Manager, Social Newsgathering (Nov. 2021 – Aug. 2024)

- Oversaw weekend newsgathering operations covering major national security, human rights and geopolitical developments across platforms.
- Managed and mentored journalists and new hires, strengthening team skills in verification, sourcing and ethical reporting.
- Conducted OSINT and digital investigations into misinformation, foreign influence operations and online harms.
- Collaborated with editorial and investigative teams to shape story framing and ensure accurate, timely and aligned reporting.

NBC News (New York, NY)

Various Newsgathering Roles – Reporter, Producer, Editor & Researcher (July 2015 – Nov. 2021)

- Investigated breaking news, foreign influence operations, digital misinformation and major national events while producing reporting for broadcast, digital and cable platforms.
- Coordinated coverage across the newsroom by managing information flow between correspondents, producers, field teams and editorial leadership to ensure accuracy and alignment.
- Utilized open-source intelligence tools, data analysis and verification protocols to identify sources, vet information and support high-impact enterprise and investigative reporting.

SKILLS

- Strategic & Rapid-Response Communications
- Digital Media & Content Strategy
- Coalition & Stakeholder Engagement
- Ambassador & Community Program Coordination
- OSINT, Verification & Misinformation Analysis
- Human Rights, GBV & International Policy Research
- Israel & Middle East Policy Expertise
- Event Planning, Program Coordination & Advocacy Resource Development
- Proficient in Spanish & Mandarin Chinese

AWARDS

- [News Emmy Award](#) (2022): Outstanding Live Breaking News Coverage – January 6 Attack on the Capitol
- [RTDNA National Murrow Awards](#) (2020, 2021, 2022, 2024, 2025)
- [New York Press Club Award](#) (2020): Feature – Science, Medicine & Technology
- [SPJ Sigma Delta Chi Award](#) for Excellence in Professional Journalism (2020)
- Twelve News Emmy Nominations (2016-2025)

AFFILIATIONS & LEADERSHIP

- Participant, iTrek Israel [Policy Program](#)
- Member, Women's Foreign Policy Group
- Awards Judge & Member, National Press Club
- Member & Mentor, Asian American Journalists Association (AAJA)
- Career Development Chair, SAIS Global Women in Leadership