

Johanna Mendelson Forman, JD, Ph.D

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CURRICULUM VITAE

STIMSON CENTER

Distinguished Fellow, Managing Across Boundaries Project, 2013 and Director, Food Security Project, 2014 to present.

Created a new institutional focus on food security as a national security issue. Projects include connecting networks of development practitioners, security professionals, university programs, and non-governmental organizations to examine the role that food has played as a driver of conflict. Our work stresses the role of governance, post-humanitarian assistance, and mechanisms to support private sector partnerships to promote food security. Current work is on innovations in the food sector that will transform agriculture in the global south, taking lessons from private sector investors and scientists.

- Developed programs with other government and non-governmental organizations about food as a national security issue in conflict states.
- Manages advisory council on job creation and entrepreneurship in the food and agriculture sector for Syrian refugees in conflict-affected states as part of a consortium with the Center for International Private Enterprise (CIPE).
- Creating new partnerships with research organizations like the Global Knowledge Initiative's Future of Food project on ways to build on lessons learned from private sector investments in new technologies for development.

AMERICAN UNIVERSITY, SCHOOL OF INTERNATIONAL SERVICE

Adjunct Professor and Scholar-in-Residence, 2013-present

Established a ground-breaking course linking post-conflict reconstruction with the foodways of diaspora population for senior capstone program. *Conflict Cuisine: War and Peace Around the Dinner Table*, has been named one of the most creative courses taught at a university by This Week Magazine, National Public Radio's The Salt, and other national publications.

- Manage connections with conflict-affected diaspora in the Washington, D.C. community to support student research about the impact of war on civilians.
- Create teaching modules about food security, foodways and culture, and connect students with local organizations involved in social gastronomy and training.
- Developed a graduate level course on United States government's Global Food Security Strategy, by convening different government actors, non-governmental organizations, and international financial institutions as participants in a yearly seminar on this topic.

CENTER FOR STRATEGIC AND INTERNATIONAL STUDIES (CSIS)

Senior Associate, Conflict, Crisis and Cooperation and Americas Program, 2006 to 2014

Served as a Senior Associate, managing administrative staff, including research scholars and direct oversight of project budgets.

- Successfully raised and managed foundation and government funds to implement projects on security sector, public safety, space policy, renewable energy, and cyber security the Americas;
- Co-directed a Commission of distinguished foreign policy specialists, Members of Congress, and scholars on the most important framework on stability operations,

"Play to Win," that the State Department adopted as a primary policy for its Office of Conflict and Stability Operations.

- Increased outreach and partnerships with international organizations, as part of a Smart Power Commission.
- Recognized as a subject matter expert on conflict in Colombia, the Caribbean, and security sector in the Americas.

UNITED NATIONS STABILIZATION MISSION IN HAITI (MINUSTAH)

Senior Advisor to the Special Representative of the Secretary General, 2006

Served as senior liaison between U.S. and UN officials in Washington, D.C. and Port au Prince, Haiti.

- Provided policy guidance and coordination of funding opportunities for the Special Representative on security issues, international donors, including identification of innovative approaches to supporting UN harmonization of sector support for Haiti.
- Teamed with UN Public Affairs Director in Port au Prince to mobilize private sector groups on new economic opportunities in renewable energy and cross border development.
- Worked on election monitoring activities for both legislative and national elections in Haiti, serving on observer teams across the country.

UNITED NATIONS FOUNDATION

Director, Peace, Security, Human Rights Policy, 2002-2006

Overall responsibility for \$10M grant program to support UN activities in areas of governance, conflict prevention, post-conflict reconstruction, collective security, and human rights

- Mobilized new donors to leverage billion dollar gift of philanthropist, Ted Turner, to projects in war-torn societies in Eastern Europe, the Middle East, Africa, and Latin America.
- Managed staff of five, including Brazilian office, to support foundation operations.
- Successfully identified and gained new resources as foundation representative on Peace and Security Funders Network and the Human Rights Funders Network.
- Collaborated with United Nations headquarters to package and market projects on human rights, democracy and governance, and gender to other UN agencies, and international representatives.

ASSOCIATION OF THE U.S. ARMY

Senior Fellow, Role of American Military Power; Co-Director, Post-Conflict, Reconstruction Project, 2001-2002.

Served as part of a senior team of subject matter experts at think tank in the Association of the United States Army, an organization that works to support all aspects of national security, participated in the first Congressionally requested civilian team to visit Iraq to assess post-war conflict rebuilding effort.

- Co-authored and edited book examining the role of the US government and the international community in reconstructing war-torn countries, including Iraq, Afghanistan, Haiti, and the Balkans, and recommending reforms for diplomacy, development, and military operations;
- Drafted team report that led to Senate hearings on failure to plan adequately for post-war Iraq;

- Briefed US and foreign legislators, international organizations, foundations, and donor community on gaps in reconstruction and recommendations for security sector reform, which were ultimately implemented through State Department.

U.S. AGENCY FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT (USAID)

Senior Advisor to the Assistant Administrator, Bureau for Humanitarian Response, 1998-2001

Appointed by USAID Administrator to advise and manage policies and multimillion dollar budget initiatives to create a new architecture for rapid response across U.S. government agencies.

- Agency subject matter expert on security and development, authoring policies on election monitoring, demobilization and reintegration of combatants, and integrating public health issues.
- Awarded USAID Merit Award for serving on evaluation teams in reconstruction and development in Haiti and East Africa Region.
- Agency liaison with military training organizations in the U.S., Europe and Canada on security sector policies.
- Created, funded and implemented first agency conference in East Africa on the link between HIV/AIDS and the security sector that led to revision of Child Survival policies to resource HIV/AIDS prevention for soldiers and families in development programs.

THE WORLD BANK, POST-CONFLICT UNIT

Senior Social Scientist, 1996-1998

Selected by USAID to serve in the World Bank's newly created Post-Conflict Unit, the first of its kind in an international financial institution to link crisis and development.

- Created the first network of donors and international financial institutions in support of central funding to rebuild war-torn societies; identified resources and created new funding instruments on the team of economists and social scientists working in this field.
- In collaboration with other units of the World Bank, developed operational policies for conflict, including new lending products in support of reconstruction in Colombia, Ecuador Peru, and Kosovo.
- Part of decision-making team for new projects funded through Bank's Post Conflict Fund, including a Bank dialogue on impact of light weapons on development, supported by European Union donors.

U.S. AGENCY FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT (USAID)

Senior Advisor, Complex Emergencies, Office of Transition Initiatives, 1994-1996

Co-founded and developed USAID's most innovative development office (OTI) to manage war to peace transitions; directed and managed \$30 million in government funding grants in Haiti and Guatemala, and commissioned research and evaluations to measure impact of field-based programs. Supervised field staff of more than 20 overseas contractors.

- With Agency Senior Management team established protocols for inter-agency cooperation, and internal coordination of programs linking relief to development programs in war-torn societies.
- Designed immediate response mechanisms to the security, peacekeeping, and political development needs in Haiti, Guatemala, Rwanda, Tajikistan, and Nigeria; negotiated with senior government officials, and international experts.
- With international donor community worked to mobilize funds and leverage US resources for rapid response to crisis countries working closely with the Departments of State and Defense, the United Nations agencies, the World Bank, and other non-governmental organizations.

Senior Democracy Fellow, Office of Democratic Initiatives, Latin America Bureau, 1992-1994

Directly responsible for multimillion-dollar grant programs in support of democratic governance and elections in Latin America. Deployed teams of election monitors and developed programs with political party institutes in support of free elections and training of civilians to support such processes.

- Worked at an inter-agency level to support State Department advisors on development assistance in emergencies, from contested elections to crises of civil-military relations. Advised and collaborated with teams to evaluate and develop specific programming to meet urgent needs in the region from Mexico and Central America, Venezuela, Paraguay, and Peru.
- Latin America Bureau subject matter expert on civil-military relations and governance.
- Co-authored agency's first manual on program implementation for civil-military relations in transition societies.

AMERICAN UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF INTERNATIONAL SERVICE

Director of Democracy Projects and Research Professor, 1986-1992

Directed multi-million dollar, ground-breaking international research project on democratic civil-military relations and simultaneously managed a project on political party development, including budgeting of funds, supervision of researchers, and management of university support staff to implement this project.

- Created and raised grant resources to create a follow-on program for the Latin American region's leading practitioners, scholars, public policy experts, and senior military officials to define roles for the armed forces in post-Cold War democratic peace.
- Organized first civil-military engagement dialogue in Guatemala with think tanks, civil society, and political leaders, resulting in re-definition of civilian and military leaders' roles in democratic peacetime.

- Successfully raised and managed over \$2 million in funding from USAID, DOD, the MacArthur and Ford Foundations, *inter alia*, to sustain democratic civil-military forums, security sector transitions and dialogue.
- Co-authored book on civil-military relations and democracy as part of a project to create new networks of civilian security practitioners in a region building a new generation of civilian leaders in security management.

BOARDS AND SERVICE

Council on Foreign Relations, *Member*

Western Hemisphere Institute for Security Cooperation (WHISEC), *Chair, Board of Visitors*, 2009 to 2017, appointed by President Obama

RESDAL Network of Latin American Security Practitioners, *Board of Directors*

Earthspark International, *Board of Directors*, 2011 to present

Creative Learning, *Board of Directors*, 2014 to present

Future of the Atlantic Project of the European Union, *Scientific and Advisory Board*, 2013-2015

ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

American University, School of International Service, *Scholar in Residence*, 2013 -2014, *Adjunct Professor*, 2015 to present

Johns Hopkins University, School of Advanced International Studies, *Professorial Lecturer*

United States Institute of Peace, *Guest Scholar*

Georgetown University, Center for Peace and National Security Studies, *Adjunct Professor*

Taught courses at each of these institutions on conflict and stabilization, energy security, and global security, food security, and post-conflict reconstruction.

EDUCATION

J.D., **American University, Washington College of Law, Washington, D.C.**

Ph.D., M.A., **Washington University, St. Louis, Missouri**

M.I.A., **Certificate in Latin American Studies, Columbia University, School of Public and International Affairs, New York**

B.A., **Queens College, City University of New York**

Overview of Recent Work

Food's relationship to war and conflict is complex and multidimensional. Lack of food can drive conflict when resources are limited. Farmers who flee their land cannot plant or harvest. Too often they become displaced and find themselves in need of humanitarian aid. Food can also become a weapon of war when governments and armed groups alike use it to deprive citizens of the most basic human need. One of the places where this relationship is especially apparent is in refugee and diaspora kitchens, where food provides a connection to one's homeland, but also a means of survival.

In today's world of food—from agricultural sciences to culinary diplomacy and gastrodplomacy—many forces are converging to create the field of social gastronomy. One of the leading voices in this emerging discipline is Johanna Mendelson Forman. She sees the kitchen as a new venue of foreign policy. With over three decades of experience with international policymaking, Johanna has observed firsthand the close connections between conflict, food, and identity, which she brings to this new perspective on the nexus of food and conflict.

Her frontline experience as a policy maker on conflict and stabilization efforts drove her interest in connecting the role of food in conflict, resulting in the creation of *Conflict Cuisine: an Introduction to War and Peace around the Dinner Table*, an interdisciplinary course that she teaches at the School of International Service at American University in Washington, DC. As an Adjunct Professor leading this new innovative curriculum, Mendelson Forman challenges her students to explore new ways of looking at diplomacy, conflict resolution, and civic engagement, and how food, as a form of Smart Power, can drive these issues in the 21st century. By establishing this link between food and conflict, Mendelson Forman developed a new interdisciplinary platform examining why food is central to survival and resilience in conflict zones.

A member of the Council on Foreign Relations, Mendelson Forman also serves as a Distinguished Fellow and Director of Food Security with the Managing Across Boundaries Program at the Stimson Center, a Washington, D. C. think tank. She is also is an Adjunct Professor at the School of International Service at American University where she teaches Conflict Cuisine.

Mendelson Forman has focused her career on post-conflict transition, civil military relations, and democratization, concentrating on the Americas, specifically Central America, the Caribbean, and Brazil. She has wide-ranging field experience on post-conflict transitions in Haiti, Guatemala, Colombia, Iraq, and throughout Sub-Saharan Africa, having served as a Senior Advisor for Humanitarian Response at the U.S. Agency for International Development, where she helped to establish the Office of Transition Initiatives. Mendelson Forman has served as the Director of Peace, Security, and Human Rights at the United Nations Foundation, Senior Advisor to the United Nations Mission in Haiti, and with the World Bank's Post-Conflict Unit. Currently, she is a Senior Advisor at the Stimson Center, where she works on food security. She has also held academic appointments at Georgetown University, the Johns Hopkins School of Advanced International Studies, and American University's School of International Service.

Mendelson Forman has written extensively about security and conflict and about Latin America. More than fifty articles, three co-edited books, and numerous opinion pieces express the breadth of her interests over the course of her career. More recently she has added many articles about food and culinary diplomacy. Her work has been published in a wide-range of publications including, the Miami Herald, Washington Post, Americas Quarterly, The Globalist, VOXXI, Estadao, El Universal, and World Politics Review, and has been cited in NPR's The Salt, LeFigaro, Salon, Italia Oggi, and This Week. She frequently appears on national media including National Public Radio, Univision, and CNN.

Mendelson Forman has lectured on food-related topics at the Smithsonian Resident Associates Program, Johns Hopkins University Bologna Campus, and New York University's Washington Program, at the United States Pavilion during the 2015 World Expo in Milan, Italy, the MAD Food Symposium in Copenhagen, and the World Economic Forum, Latin America. She has delivered keynote addresses at Les Dames D'Escoffier, the Society for Nutrition Behavior, and at the World Affairs Council.