


***Background on the Senator-elect's statements, positions, and record on diplomacy, international assistance, and U.S. international affairs programs.***

A Chicago native and attorney who has served as Illinois Lieutenant Governor since 2019, Senator-elect Juliana Stratton connects America's global engagement to economic opportunity and security at home saying, **"Comprehensive, strategic foreign policy is essential to strengthen our economy, sustain national security, and successfully advance diplomatic relationships abroad."**

Stratton is a graduate of the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign and DePaul University College of Law. She has served as lieutenant governor since 2019 and previously represented Illinois's 5th House District, home to 750,000 residents. Her public record includes trade engagement with Japan and support for international public-health cooperation.

## ON DIPLOMACY AND GLOBAL ECONOMIC ENGAGEMENT:

- In April 2025, during an Illinois trade mission to Mexico City focused on agriculture and private investment, she said, "Illinois and Mexico share more than trade—we share values… We took representatives from soybean, beef, from corn, and made sure that we built those relationships directly." She also led an Illinois delegation to Japan in 2023.
- In a February 2026 Chicago Sun-Times/WBEZ candidate questionnaire, Stratton argued that "the Senate must take decisive action to take back tariff authority from the President and reinstate Congress' power of the purse."
- In a 2026 WTTW TV interview, Stratton stated, "tariffs haven't strengthened our economy – they've put a tax on working families."
- In a February 2026 Chicago Sun-Times/WBEZ candidate questionnaire, she argued that the "trade war with China isn't working," saying China had redirected exports to other countries while the trade war raised costs for Illinois farmers and disrupted their overseas sales.

## ON GLOBAL HEALTH:

- When Illinois joined the World Health Organization's Global Outbreak Alert and Response Network in February 2026, following the Trump Administration's formal withdrawal of the U.S. from WHO, Stratton said the state would continue to rely on "evidence, data, and medical expertise" to guide decisions and that the state government "will always choose the health of our people over political grandstanding or misinformation."

## ON RUSSIA'S WAR IN UKRAINE:

- In a February 2026 Capitol News Illinois candidate questionnaire, Stratton expressed support for Ukraine, stating, "An attack on one NATO ally is an attack on us all…We should work with our allies to end the war in Ukraine; our combined initiatives to support the economic and military strength of the sovereign nation of Ukraine are critical."
- In the same questionnaire, she expressed support for sanctions on Russia, stating, "If elected, I would support continued sanctions against Russia to assert economic pressure for them to negotiate a peace agreement with Ukraine."

## ON GLOBAL COMPETITION WITH CHINA:

- In a February 2026 Chicago Sun-Times/WBEZ candidate questionnaire, Stratton said, "We should invest in American infrastructure, advanced technology, and workforce in order to compete with China."
- She expressed support for strengthening ties with Taiwan, saying, "We must continue to bolster bilateral ties with Taiwan by supporting its self-defense capabilities and helping to secure its semiconductor manufacturing and significant global supply chain implications."

## ON CONFLICT IN THE MIDDLE EAST:

- While Stratton has said, "I certainly don't want to see a nuclear Iran," in a February 2026 candidate questionnaire, Stratton said about the Iran war, "I will not support any supplemental funding for this war and will be a check on this president…I support legislation that ensures foreign military intervention is authorized by Congress, not a single individual."
- In an August 2025 interview, Stratton said the U.S. and Israel should "be very focused on getting humanitarian aid, food, and whatever is needed" into Gaza and called for a "ceasefire to bring peace and end the violence in that region."
- In an October 2025 Evanston Roundtable candidate statement, Stratton said, "We need a two-state solution that allows dignity and self-determination for Palestinians and Israelis. I want to see additional humanitarian aid to Gaza and U.S. assistance in the rebuilding process." She also called for normalizing regional partnerships between Israel and its neighbors and said Hamas "has to be removed from power and demilitarized."
- In an October 2026 interview, Stratton said, "I believe Israel is an important ally, and I believe that Israel has a right to safety and security," but that she does not believe Prime Minister Netanyahu shares her goal of a two-state solution and said she would have supported a resolution to halt certain military support to Israel.