

SHAIMAA ELHADIDY

Egyptian Journalist

Contact

-  Istanbul/London
-  Hadidysm@gmail.com
-  shaimaa-alhadidy
-  salhadidy
-  +447769666081

Language

-  Arabic
-  English
-  Turkish

Education

Master's degree in International Relations - University of Westminster, London 2023.

Bachelor's degree in Journalism - 2015

Achievements

Oct 2023

I had the privilege of presenting a research paper at Ibn Haldun Üniversitesi's Suleymaniye Campus MEDİT (Alliance Of Civilisations) in Istanbul. The paper, titled "How has the Egyptian government sought to erase the revolutionary identity of Tahrir Square?", was prepared for a workshop on "The Urban and Local Dimensions of Political Violence in Syria and the Middle East (SUR)."

Training & Workshops Delivered

Sep - Nov 2025

Designed and delivered intensive English-language training programs for Research Interns at Al Sharq Strategic Research, equipping participants with practical skills in the use of AI tools for research, academic writing, data visualisation, and no-code interactive dashboards and design tools.

Digital Newsroom Manager at ArabicPost with over a decade of experience across 10+ institutions in newsrooms, investigative and open-source journalism, and human rights. I have contributed in English to MEMO, MEE, The New Arab, and New Lines magazine, and worked as a researcher for CFIJ.

Most of my career has been in Arabic media, including roles as a journalist at HuffPost Arabic and as Senior Producer and later Team Lead at Arabi Post. I have also contributed to four projects with Al Jazeera Arabic.

Experiences in Arabic & English Journalism



ArabicPost (Arabic)

Feb 2026 - Present

Digital Newsroom Manager

Managing all ArabicPost social media teams across X, Instagram, TikTok, Facebook, and Telegram, with each platform operating as a fully developed digital newsroom producing its own editorial content.

My responsibilities also include developing content strategy, overseeing daily editorial output and creative production, as well as driving audience growth and engagement through data-driven analysis.

In addition, I train team members in both editorial and technical skills, including the use of design templates and video editing tools.



ArabicPost (Arabic)

Aug 2024 - Feb 2026

Team Lead

On Instagram and TikTok, I founded a first-of-its-kind team within the institution, where each member functioned as a one-person production unit. I developed a training program to teach every team member platform-specific writing, design, and video editing skills, eliminating the need for external staff.

In less than a year and a half of managing both platforms, we reached nearly 500 million total views, over 20 million engagements, and a net gain of more than 500K followers. This started from a baseline of around 700K followers accumulated over previous years of activity. Overall performance exceeded key benchmarks by multiples, reaching up to 27x in some metrics, all without paid advertising.



Syria Podcast (Arabic)

Apr - June 2025

Team Lead

Managed the podcast's Instagram during a trial period, training the in-house editor in platform-specific writing, design, and video editing to produce carousels, graphics, and Reels linking episodes to current events.



Iran Podcast (Arabic)

June 2025

Content Editor

During the Israel-Iran war, the podcast urgently needed an editor with journalistic and technical skills to produce carousel and Reel content reflecting breaking news and aligned with episode themes across all social media platforms.



The New Lines Magazine (English)

Apr 2023 - Jan 2025

Writer

Writing features and a first-person essay for the printed edition of a Washington-based magazine, which are also published on the website.



Middle East Eye (English)

March 2023 - Present

Contributor

Writing exclusive essays on Egypt's political situation and produced the "Women of Rabaa" video series documenting massacre survivors' testimonies. One piece received broad Arabic media coverage, exposing Cairo's refusal to issue birth certificates and passports for children of politically active Egyptians born in Turkey.

Memberships

London Freelance Branch

Jan 2024 - Jan 2026

Membership & New Members for LFB, affiliated with NUJ.

The National Union of Journalists

June 2023 - Present

NUJ is a trade union for journalists in the United Kingdom and Ireland, founded in 1907.

Marie Colvin Journalists' Network

March 2021: Present

A project for female journalists in the Middle East supported by The Circle, a UK-based organisation.

Courses

I've completed **over 30 courses** in various areas, undertaken with esteemed institutions such as: Al Jazeera Media Institute, Westminster University (UK), Women in Journalism (UK), Bellingcat (Netherlands), Knight Center (Americas), ICFJ (affiliated with iijnet), Global Investigative Journalism Network (GIJN), and Arab Reporters for Investigative Journalism (ARIJ).

The courses include:

- Using open-source in investigations
- AI in journalism and fact-checking
- Data journalism essential skills
- Improving search engine optimisation (SEO)
- Mobile journalism essential skills
- Writing content for social media
- Storytelling in journalism

Volunteering

2023-2024

Co-founder of **Just Reporting Network**, formed in the UK after Israel's war on Gaza in 2023. JRN's main two missions are to stand in solidarity with our Palestinian colleagues and work with colleagues across the media industry to ensure more accurate coverage that reflects the reality of the situation in Palestine and beyond.

2021

Co-founder of **Unmute Palestine**, a virtual campaign against Facebook and Instagram restrictions on pro-Palestine content during the evictions of Palestinian families in the East Jerusalem neighbourhood of Sheikh Jarrah and the Gaza war in 2021. I was responsible for creating Instagram's content.



The New Arab (English)

Contributor

Nov 2022 - Present

Writing exclusive essays on human rights issues in Egypt and Sudan. One notable piece detailed the dangerous desert journey of Egyptian opposition members who relied on smugglers to cross into Sudan after being pursued by state security and barred from leaving legally.



Middle East Eye (English)

Editor

Apr - Nov 2024

Freelance editor specialising in political content for social media platforms.



Middle East Monitor (English)

Content Creator

Jan - Apr 2024

Freelance political news content creator, specialising in Middle Eastern affairs for both the website and its associated social media platforms.



Al-Jazeera (Arabic)

Journalist

2019: 2024

- London correspondent for Al Jazeera Mubasher (Oct 2023 - Jan 2024)
- Content creator for Instagram (Apr - Jun 2022)
- A freelance writer for Aljazeera.net (Dec 2020 - Sep 2023)
- Script-writer for the program "The Story Continues" (July - Sep 2019)



Coalition For Women in Journalism

Researcher (English)

Jul 2022 - Oct 2022

Researched, documented, and reported violations against women journalists in MENA and Turkey, and conducted interviews with those affected.



ArabicPost (Arabic)

Senior Producer

Mar 2018 - Jun 2022

As a senior producer in the News and Evergreen teams, I led daily meetings with 15 colleagues, fostering collaboration and idea-sharing. In 2021, I helped attract over 12 million visitors to the website, with 8% coming from Google, highlighting my SEO skills. I hosted live interviews in both Arabic and English and presented explainer videos, including an interview with Canadian journalist Ginella Massa, the first hijab-wearing anchor on a national newscast in North America.



SasaPost (Arabic)

Investigative Journalist

Aug 2020 - Apr 2021

My proudest work involved an open-source investigative project that mapped out the data related to Arabic and Middle Eastern lobbying activities in Washington DC, spanning government, military, and political groups.



The Huffington Post (Arabic)

Journalist

Apr 2016 - Mar 2018

Journalist in the Viral department, where I led an internal team of six core members and collaborated with over 50 correspondents and freelance contributors across the Middle East during my manager's absence. I covered various topics, including society, culture, technology, lifestyle, and entertainment..



NoonPost (Arabic)

Contributor

Apr 2015 - Apr 2016

Wrote dozens of explanatory articles about political and human rights issues in the region, many of which involved interviewing political activists in Egypt and Palestine.

Human Rights Field (Arabic)



International Coalition for Freedoms and Rights

Researcher

Dec 2015 - May 2016



Human Rights Monitor

Researcher

Dec 2013 - Aug 2015



Human Rights Watch

Research Coordinator

2013 - 2014

Other Experiences



Westminster University (English)

Student Ambassador

Aug 2023 - Feb 2024

I worked on various projects and events, including Enrollment.