

CHARBEL FRANCIS

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EXPERIENCE

AMERICAN UNIVERSITY OF BEIRUT

Graduate Research Assistant

Beirut, LB
2023– Current

- Research assistant to the Director of the Public Policy & International Affairs Department.
- Contributed to the SHAPEDEM-EU €2.7M international project on EU's Southern Neighborhood Democracy Support by conducting in-depth qualitative and quantitative research and synthesizing findings on Lebanon, Palestine, and Tunisia.

UNITED NATIONS OHCHR ROMENA

Associate Human Rights Officer

Beirut, LB
2023

- Raised on-time submissions for the Treaty Body (TB) division from 50% to 100% by implementing streamlined communication protocols, and conducting weekly stakeholder check-ins, to ensure timely UPR and TB reporting.
- Nominated as the Sustainable Environmental Management (SEM) focal point and spearheaded a 3-month SEM initiative with UNEP and achieved 100% of the in-house monthly carbon reduction target (3,000 points).
- Nominated guest speaker at LGBTQI+ Task Force, engaging 15+ UN agencies and NGOs on best practices to implement UPR recommendations in Lebanon.
- Supervised and mentored a junior intern, delegating targeted research assignments and providing regular feedback to ensure high-quality outputs in line with project objectives.

UNITED NATIONS OHCHR ROMENA

Human Rights Intern

Beirut, LB
2022-2023

- Monitored human rights in Algeria and Morocco daily, compiling 20+ weekly violation updates and 5 monthly overviews that informed senior management's policy briefs and drove immediate interventions.
- Spearheaded two regional stakeholder mappings (LGBTQI+ and migrant workers), identifying 15+ key organizations, and authored a proposal for the LGBTQI+ Free & Equal Campaign; and secured endorsement for expanded advocacy.

BROUMMANA HIGH SCHOOL

Cambridge A-level International History Teacher

Beirut, LB
2022

- Taught A-Level History to 12 students (Grades 11 and 12), raising their average exam score from 70 to 85—with a top score of 95—through interactive simulations and personalized mentorship.

BEIRUT-BASED LAW FIRM

Paralegal

Beirut, LB
2018-2022

- Supported 10+ legal cases (civil and criminal), drafting briefs for senior attorneys and managing case documentation.
- Prepared and reviewed 4 domestic violence case arguments and 1 cross-border corporate inheritance conflict worth \$25M (Lebanon–Greece), learning private international law instruments.
- Translated and edited 10+ bilingual contracts (Arabic–English), ensuring accurate legal language for international transactions.

EDUCATION

LEBANESE AMERICAN UNIVERSITY

M.Sc. in Applied Artificial Intelligence

Beirut, LB
2024 – Current

- Current GPA: 3.87/4.00

AMERICAN UNIVERSITY OF BEIRUT

M.A. in Public Policy and International Affairs

Beirut, LB
2023 – Current

- Current GPA: 4.03/4.30, departmental graduate assistantship award.

AMERICAN UNIVERSITY OF BEIRUT

B.A. in Political Studies

Beirut, LB
2016 – 2020

- GPA: 3.24, minor in International Law, Dean's List Academic Achievement Award Spring 2018 to Fall 2020.

PERSONAL

Lebanese/Venezuelan | Native Arabic & English, Fluent French & Spanish, Conversational Armenian | Interests: Ashtanga Yoga, creative writing, theater.