CHARBEL FRANCIS

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EXPERIENCE

UNITED NATIONS SYSTEM STAFF COLLEGE (UNSSC) **Turin, IT**
Associate Academic Fellow **2026-Current**

- Initiated a proposed academic partnership initiative in Morocco, conducting background research, developing the concept note, and drafting strategic correspondence to the UN Resident Coordinator to explore institutional collaboration.
- Contribute to the conceptualization and development of a new learning module on Space Environment and Peacebuilding, integrating interdisciplinary research on emerging global challenges, international cooperation, and peacebuilding.
- Develop and adapt multilingual e-learning content in English and French using Articulate Rise and Genially to create interactive learning experiences for stakeholders.
- Contribute to the development of academic partnerships and institutional learning initiatives, supporting collaboration with universities and international organizations.

AMERICAN UNIVERSITY OF BEIRUT **Beirut, LB**
Graduate Research Assistant **2023-2025**

- Research assistant to the Director of the Public Policy & International Affairs Department.
- Contributed to the EU-funded SHAPEDEM-EU project by conducting in-depth qualitative and quantitative analysis and co-authoring 3 official Horizon Europe publications on EU-Arab relations.
- Conducted extensive desk-based research on chemical weapons use in Syria (2010–2024), examining UN and OPCW investigations, international accountability mechanisms, and compliance with the Chemical Weapons Convention.
- Analyzed and synthesized UN reports, OPCW findings, academic literature, and international legal documentation into thematic research materials that contributed to an academic book manuscript on Syria Chemical Weapons.

UNITED NATIONS OHCHR ROMENA **Beirut, LB**
UN Volunteer Associate Human Rights Officer | Human Rights Intern **2022-2023**

- 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 the 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.
- 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 **Beirut, LB**
Cambridge A-level International History Teacher **2022**

- Taught A-Level History to 11 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 **Beirut, LB**
Part-time Paralegal **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 (Lebanon–Greece), learning private international law instruments.
- Translated and edited 10+ bilingual contracts (Arabic–English).

PUBLICATIONS

- Abrami, S. C. A., Bourekba, M., Francis, C., Grzymski, J., Korosteleva, E., Makdisi, K., Mouawad, J., Sharshenova, A., & Ventura, E. (2025). *SHAPEDEM-EU Policy Briefs*. SHAPEDEM-EU Publications (Horizon Europe).
- Makdisi, K., Mouawad, J., and Francis, C. (2025). *Report on Policy Recommendations for the European Union's Democracy Support in its Southern Neighbourhood (Lebanon, Palestine, Tunisia).* SHAPEDEM-EU Publications (Horizon Europe).
- Fahmi, G., Francis, C., Geadah, S., Kosmatopoulos, N., & Pison-Hindawi, C. (2024). *Chronology of EU–Arab Engagement and Cluster of Thematic Contextual Papers on EU–Arab Relations.* SHAPEDEM-EU Publications (Horizon Europe).

EDUCATION

LEBANESE AMERICAN UNIVERISTY **Beirut, LB**
M.Sc. in Applied Artificial Intelligence **2024 – ongoing**
- GPA: 3.88/4.00, coursework completed; thesis pending funding.

AMERICAN UNIVERSITY OF BEIRUT **Beirut, LB**
M.A. in Public Policy and International Affairs **2023 – 2026**
- GPA: 4.03/4.30, departmental graduate assistantship award.

AMERICAN UNIVERISTY OF BEIRUT **Beirut, LB**
B.A. in Political Studies **2016 – 2020**
- GPA: 3.24/4.00, minor in International Law, Dean's List Academic Achievement Award Spring 2018 to Fall 2020.

PERSONAL

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