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MAYA CHEHADE

EDUCATION 2019 – 2023: **Sciences Po Paris**, Doctorate in Political Science
2016: **King's College London**, Master of Arts in Conflict Resolution in Divided Societies
2015: **University of Chapel Hill North Carolina**, Master of Arts in International Relations in partnership with the University of Jean Moulin Lyon
2010 – 2014: **University of Jean Moulin Lyon 3**, bachelor's degree in political science and law

PUBLICATIONS Chehade, Maya. "L'Égypte, Eldorado Ou Mirage Pour Les Réfugiés Syriens ?" *Orient XXI*, 2023. <https://orientxxi.info/magazine/l-egypte-eldorado-ou-mirage-pour-les-refugies-syriens,6366>, (published).
Chehade, Maya. "The Discourse of Civil Society in Syria: An Arena of Constant Shifts for Liberation." Master Thesis, King's College London, 2016, (unpublished).
Chehade, Maya. "Proving Oneself: Entrepreneurial Trajectories of Syrian Refugees in Jordan and Egypt (2011-2023)." PhD Thesis, Sciences Po Paris, 2023, (unpublished).
Chehade, Maya. Syrian Businessmen in Egypt: Reputation as an Avenue to Success? Carnegie Middle East Center, 2025, (forthcoming).
Chehade, Maya. "Proving Oneself: Entrepreneurial Trajectories of Syrian Refugees in Jordan and Egypt (2011-2023)." [book proposal], (forthcoming).
Chehade, Maya. "The Little Syria(s)" of Cairo; A Renegotiation of Space(s) Through Entrepreneurship" in "Benefits of migration for Arab host Countries". CAREP Paris, 2025 (forthcoming).

EXPERIENCE

ADVISOR, INTERNATIONAL LABOR ORGANIZATION (CAIRO)

2024: Offered consulting services to the ILO office in Cairo on entrepreneurship and private sector engagement to offer alternative pathways to irregular migrations in Egypt. The consultancy involved a stakeholder analysis, concept note development, and desk research.

RESEARCH ASSISTANT, AMERICAN UNIVERSITY OF CAIRO (CAIRO)

2024: Provided desk research to professor Gerda Heck at the American University of Cairo for her book project on Congolese migration in the Middle East.

HEAD OF IMPACT ASSESSMENT AND REGIONAL EXPANSION, LUMINUS EDUCATION (AMMAN)

2018 – 2021:

- Managed the expansion of Luminus Education in North Africa (International Finance Cooperation portfolio company);
- Conducted and led social impact assessment of the social enterprise by establishing its social & economic impact framework and indicators in cooperation with the executive team, board members and strategic partners;
- Contributed to business development activities and client engagements with international donor organizations (EBRD, AFD, AGFE etc.).

MANAGER, ADAM SMITH INTERNATIONAL (LONDON, KINSHASA)

2016 – 2018:

- Managed various international development projects for international development agencies;
- Managed a £50 million private sector development project in Congo (DRC) funded by the Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office;
- Participated to Business development activities & project conceptualization in North Africa & Middle East;
- Provided subject matter expertise on political economy and conflict analysis in Sub-Saharan Africa & MENA region.

ASSISTANT MANAGER, AKTIS STRATEGY (LONDON)

2016:

- Prepared concept notes for business development purposes in the Middle East;
- Participated to client engagements with the Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office;
- Led research projects to develop business opportunities in Turkey and Lebanon;
- Improved the company's information sharing systems for business development purposes.

RESEARCH ASSISTANT, ARAB CENTER FOR RESEARCH AND POLICY STUDIES (DOHA)

2015:

- Coordinated and conducted several research projects on the Middle East in Arabic and English;
- Participated to the Arab Opinion Index project with academics and experts from the MENA region;
- Mapped political elite stakeholders active in civil society organizations in the Gulf region.

INTERN, SYRIAN ARAB REPRESENTATION TO THE UNITED NATIONS HEADQUARTER (NEW YORK)

2015:

- Attended meeting preparations and negotiations of the vetoed Security Council resolution on the Syrian crisis in September/October 2011
- Presented a research paper on Universal Jurisdiction to the Syrian ambassador to the UN

TEACHING
EXPERIENCE

AUC, INTERNATIONAL CENTER FOR MIGRATION

2024 and 2025: Visiting lecturer for “**Entrepreneurship in Forced Migration; International Private Sector Development Policies that Work?**” undergraduate seminar, American University of Cairo.

ORGANIZATION OF
SEMINAR

2023 – 2024: Doctoral Kitchen, CEDEJ CAIRO, animated and organized doctoral seminars at the CEDEJ in CAIRO with its PhD candidates.
2023 – 2024: Doctoral Solidarity, CEDEJ CAIRO, animated and organized doctoral meetings at the CEDEJ in CAIRO with its PhD candidates.

CONFERENCES

2022: Participated to the Migration Seminar, CEDEJ CAIRO, presented “The Economic Integration of Syrians in the Private Sector in Egypt and Jordan”.
2023: Migration Seminar, CEDEJ CAIRO, “The impact of the Private Sector on Syrian Refugees in the Mashreq Region: Syrian Entrepreneurial Journeys in Egypt and Jordan”.
2023: Writing Seminar, CEDEJ CAIRO, presented a chapter of the thesis entitled “Unequal Opportunities of Forced Migrations: Between Entrepreneurship by Necessity and Opportunity Defining Refugees’ Socio-economic paths?”.
2024: Presented at the roundtable on “Benefits of migration for Arab host Countries”, CAREP Paris (online).
2024: UNHCR livelihoods working group Cairo, “Lessons Learnt from Entrepreneurial Trajectories of Syrian Refugees in Jordan and Egypt (2011-2023)”, UNHCR Egypt.
2024: CEDEJ Tuesday Seminar, “How to Become a Successful Entrepreneur in Forced Migration? Trajectories of Syrian Refugee Entrepreneurs in Egypt and Jordan (2011-2023)”.
2024: CEDEJ Writing Seminar, Book proposal “Proving Oneself: Entrepreneurial Trajectories of Syrian Refugees in Egypt and Jordan (2011-2023).
2024: Union for the Mediterranean, “Best Practices of Refugee Entrepreneurship in Egypt and Jordan”.

PUBLIC
ENGAGEMENT

2022 – 2023: Supported Syrian refugee interlocutors in the development of their micro businesses by using project management skills and providing them with networks for financial assistance.
2022 – 2023: Connected Syrian refugee interlocutors with existing NGOs and projects in Jordan.

2024: Mentoring Sudanese refugee students.

LANGUAGES French: Native speaker
 English: Fluent
 Arabic: Native speaker
 German: Fluent (lived 6 years in Germany)
 Spanish: Intermediate

– REFERENCES AVAILABLE ON REQUEST –