

MELANIE ANNE CREMONA

melaniecremona@live.com | [LinkedIn Profile](#) | www.melaniecremona.com | Lebanese-Greek

Oxford Graduate in Public Policy, Saïd-Foundation Scholar, Project Manager at the BBC and Former United Nations Consultant with 9 years of professional experience in the social sector and at the Thomson Reuters Foundation. Fields of education, public policy, international development, media and telecommunication, humanitarian assistance, diplomacy and gender equality.

Education

University of Oxford – Blavatnik School of Government <i>Master's in Public Policy</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Oxford & Saïd Foundation Scholar (Full Scholarship)	Oxford, UK Sep 2019 - Oct 2020
Fordham University – Graduate Diploma (One-Month Intensive Course) <i>International Diploma in Humanitarian Assistance – Distinction</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Fordham University Scholar (Full Scholarship)	Geneva, CHE Feb 2015
University of Copenhagen – Exchange Year <i>Bachelor's in Sociology</i>	Copenhagen, DNK Aug 2013 - May 2014
University of Paris 7 – Paris Diderot <i>Bachelor's in Sociology – Honours from the Jury: "Mention Bien" (Top 5%)</i>	Paris, FRA Sep 2011 - Jul 2013

Work Experience

BBC <i>Project Manager</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Leading and designing capacity-building projects for journalists and media platforms in countries at war	London, UK June 2023 - to date
University of Oxford <i>Freelance Project Manager</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Supported the university with the implementation of a joint UNESCO-Oxford higher-education programmeSupported the Blavatnik School of Government with their outreach strategy for their new executive programme	Feb - June 2023
United Nations, International Telecommunication Union (ITU) <i>Project Manager</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Led the design, development and implementation of a digital skills educational program for women in rural areas to increase gender equality in information and communication technologies (ICTs)Led the design and development of a high-profile gender equality course for women delegates attending ITU's highest policy-making body affecting the development of ICTs worldwide: the Plenipotentiary conference	Apr 2022 - Jan 2023
Thomson Reuters Foundation <i>Project Coordinator: Media Development & Editorial Teams – Focus on the Middle East</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Led capacity-building projects for donors, journalists and media platforms: Gates Foundation, European Bank for Reconstruction and Development and other private stakeholdersLiaised with in-country partners to coordinate activities, supervise training programmes for journalists on topics related to human rights and marginalized communities, and monitor finances	Oct 2020 - Mar 2022
United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) <i>Oxford Graduate Researcher, Summer Project (Conducted remotely from Oxford)</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Researched, analysed and compiled data for the implementation of capacity-building projects for higher education institutions in six countries in Africa with a focus on gender inclusivityDrafted a policy brief for governments on their education policies	Paris, FRA Jul 2020 - Sep 2020
United Nations - Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR) & UN Women <i>Focal point: UN Assistant Secretary-General's Gender Policy Group & Innovation Task Force</i> <i>Consultant: Division for Multilateral Diplomacy</i> <p>Designed, implemented and managed high-profile capacity-building projects and strategic partnerships with/for governments and high-level executives (multilateral diplomacy)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Designed content, implemented conferences: "The Geneva Lecture Series" with Nobel Peace Prize Laureate 2015, President of Microsoft and Deputy High Commissioner for Human Rights (2,000 participants) and "Why are the SDGs relevant to the private sector?" (100 participants)Led the Women's Leadership Programme with UN Women, implemented leadership training (public-speaking, negotiations, etc.) for female policy makers in Switzerland, Sweden, Tunisia and Algeria (400 beneficiaries)	Geneva, CHE Sep 2015 - Jul 2019

- Created Masters' in governance with University of Geneva, MGIMO and Brandeis University: Designed modules (UN system, peace & security, 2030 Agenda), liaised with students and experts, e.g. Deputy Foreign Ministers, Ambassadors, UN Directors, World Bank Group and placed students in international organizations as part of summer projects
- Supervised three interns per year

The Safety and Security Committee for Lebanon – Risk Management Training Platform for NGOs
Consultant, Project Officer

Beirut, LBN
 Apr - Aug 2015

- Led projects for Donors/Grant Holders: DFID, ECHO, Oxfam GB and CARE International by providing timely reporting and negotiating spending activities; ensured accounting records and internal control systems were maintained in accordance with policies/procedures
- Managed the cash flow of the platform by planning monthly inflows/outflows - ~\$1M budget

United Nations World Food Programme (WFP)

Amman, JOR

Intern: Syria Regional Emergency Coordinator Office – Operational Information Management Unit

Aug 2014 - Jan 2015

- Made frequent field visits to refugee camps to understand dynamics between office and field work
- Provided weekly analysis on regional situation and aid policy developments for Senior Management and Head Quarters by monitoring daily media of Syria, Jordan, Lebanon, Turkey and Iraq

PEM Consult – International development consultancy

Copenhagen, DNK

Intern

Jan - May 2014

- Drafted tender bidding reports for the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Denmark (DANIDA)
- Shortlisted 3 countries for a development project by creating a quantitative scoring selection model on excel

Voluntary Work

Chatham House, Queen Elizabeth II Academy for Leadership in International Affairs

London, UK

Leadership Masterclass Programme (Full Scholarship)

Oct 2023 - to date

The Tahrir Institute for Middle East Policy (TIMEP)

Apr 2023

Moderated [a talk](#) on Lebanon's Economic Future

Nov 2021

Op-ed article published on the front page of [Arab News](#)

[Organizing Committee](#) of the Oxford Rhodes Trust Forum on Syria, Jordan, Lebanon and Palestine

Panel Participation: 'Period poverty in Lebanon' for the NGO 'Ma3kon'

TV Interview on [Al Arabiy TV](#) (Time: 42:39) on public responses to COVID-19 and vaccine inequity

Jun 2021

Panel Participation: 'Making sense of the Beirut Blast' for the King's College London Pro Bono society

Feb 2021

United Diaspora Lebanon

Jan 2021

Member: Led initiatives to lobby for government reforms and raise awareness on social issues in Lebanon

Women in Public Policy Society

Oxford, UK

Founding Member: Organised workshops, talks and awareness-raising campaigns on gender policies

Dec 2019 - June 2020

Oxford Lebanese Society

Founding Member: Organised panel discussions, spoke on [podcasts](#) and [wrote](#) blog [articles](#) to [raise awareness](#) on the [socio-political situation](#) in Lebanon

Oxford University

Volunteered for a curricula review initiative aimed at ensuring a more pluralistic curriculum

Lean In – Circle Hub empowering women, named largest Circle in Europe by *Lean In* in 2017

Geneva, CHE

Founding Member: Co-hosted monthly sessions, enabling mentoring, skills-coaching and networking

Sep 2015 - Dec 2018

Policy Hackathon on Gender Equality (Foraus, Swiss Foreign Policy Think Tank)

Nov 2017

Elected Gender Coach/Expert: Guided top companies (P&G) with their challenges over a weekend

[Radio Interview](#) with Dr. Gloria Burgess on Women's Leadership

May 2017

Selected Guest Speaker on Radio Show to discuss gender issues in Lebanon and around the world

Languages, Skills and Interests

Languages: Fluent in French, English (IELTS Score: 8), Arabic; conversational in Spanish

IT Skills: Great command of Word, Excel, PowerPoint, Thomson Reuters Eikon, Adobe, Salesforce, Alcherm

Interests: Reading, writing, swimming, horse riding, dancing, travelling. 10 years' experience in theatre, screen acting and improvisation