AHMED XANDER MEDIEN

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Menu:



Professional Experience



Knowledge mobilization and leadership



Education

Professional Experience

A systems engineer by training, I am a highly driven professional with now over 10 years of experience in internet service ventures and project management. In the past 5-6 years, I have taken the role of thought leader and convener of people, science and ideas on the subjects of information integrity, misinformation and human-Al interaction. My core skills are project and team leadership and management. In addition to that, I have organized and chaired several global conferences in academia, industry, and civil society about trust online and disinformation. My expertise encompasses research, knowledge production, successful proposal writing and administration, human resources activation, interpersonal and context-aware communication, mentoring and coalition-building.

- Human-AI interactions and persona-based adversarial testing (red-teaming)
- Fluent in Arabic (MSA, Levantine), French and English
- Customer relationships management and customer operations, including ticketing tools such as Zendesk
- Grant administration, financial and budget planning, and management
- Expertise in costs and budget management, research, knowledge production, and coalition building

Work

OpenAl

Toronto,

Canada

Independent Contractor, OpenAI Red-Teaming Network

October 2023 - Current

Participated in OpenAI led red teaming efforts to assess the risks and safety profile of OpenAI models and systems.

Federated Civics (seed-fund stage)

Consultant

Toronto, Canada

January 2024 – Current

- Drafting periodical reports on AI market environment, funds availability and new product and policy trends
- Building up the company's internal CRM (salesforce) and partnerships development frameworks for launch
- Constructing an "AI alignment" assembly model for ingesting large public and developers' consultations

Misinformation Village @ DEFCON

Founding Chair, Program Lead

Toronto, Canada

Jan 2022 - Current

- The Misinformation Village was a village/conference at the Hackers conference, DEF CON 30 and 31
- The Misinformation Village featured more than 45 talks, hackathons, tabletop exercises, and movie screenings about influence operations, disinformation tactics, strategic operations, and information advantage

Internet Archive

Toronto, Canada Manager

of Patron Services

Feb 2022- Nov 2022

- Led and expanded the Archive's Patrons Services team, tracking and improving key internal operational and patron-facing metrics.
- Delivered multi-platform content management and trust and safety support in all patron-support areas (DMCA, extreme content and CSAM, content removal, and reference library requests
- Transformed and oversaw creation of support resources, operational processes, and new policy documentation.

Program Manager – Misinformation Projects

- Managed fundraising, operations, project delivery of three key projects: MisinfoCon Global Summit on Misinformation, Conference for Truth and Trust Online and WikiCredibility Research Grants.
- Curated blog content on health disinformation and election integrity, producing 30+ posts in 2021-2022
- Developed and contributed to email marketing campaigns to promote different projects in line with the organization's mission of promoting scientific research on countering disinformation.
- Managed the Wikicred research grants program (2019-2023); \$200,000 for 22 open-knowledge credibility projects
- Produced Truth and Trust Online (2021-22) with 80+ sessions, 150+ speakers, andraised over \$120k in sponsorships.

Meedan Elections Fact-Checking Project Lead Tunis, Tunisia

Sep 2019 - Dec 2019

- Developed a training program for local journalists on online fact-checking and publishing tool checkmedia.org.
- Trained 8 journalists at L'Économiste Maghrébin during the 2019 Tunisian general elections to produce real-time live factcheckers during the three live presidential debates
- Documented broad trends of disinforming and misinforming discourse, reviewed, and published fact-checked updates with partner community news outlets
- Mobilized a team of three citizen journalists to fact-check the political discourse and news on vote day in October 2019; published more than forty articles on their outlets.

Deloitte Consulting

Senior Data Officer

Tunis, Tunisia

Jan 2019 - Sep 2019

- Worked as a data analyst and process documentation consultant in a \$50 million contracted USAID project.
- Trained a group of 20 municipal staff to track data, assess and improve service delivery data points in the solid waste management and public lighting.

Earlier experiences

Dubai, UAE

Full professional experience: https://axm.events/how-it-started/

2014-2017

Knowledge mobilization and leadership

Conference Leadership (2019 – Current)

Full list here: https://axm.events/portfolio-catagory/conferences/

- Science and Climate Information Integrity Symposium National Academies of Sciences Feb 22-23, 2020 (USA)
- Conference for Truth and Trust Online Online October 2021
- Global Summit on Misinformation in partnership with Mozilla Internet Festival March 2022 (Online)
- Global Summit on Misinformation (Brazil elections 2022) in partnership with Agencia Lupa June 2022 (Brazil)
- 5 series of workshops on information integrity at the International Journalism Festival April 2022 (Perugia, Italy)
- Misinformation Village 1 DEFCON August 2022 (Las Vegas)
- Conference for Truth and Trust Online **Boston October 2022**
- Misinformation Village 2 **DEFCON August 2023 (Las Vegas)**
- Conference for Empowering the Digital Citizen RightsCon June 2023 (Costa Rica)
- 1 session on AI alignment and feedback mechanism, MozFest House Amsterdam Trustworthy AI June 2024 (Netherlands)

Projects

WikiCred Research Grants

Founding member, Initiative chair

Toronto, Canada Feb 2020 - Current

- Managed grant proposal applications, online communication, community outreach and grant contracts for a \$100,000 fund by Microsoft, Facebook, and Craig Newmark Philanthropies
- Oversaw the completion of fourteen funded projects, participated and delivered workshops during global events and conferences such as WikiConference North America 2021, RightsCon 2021, and Mozfest 2021.
- Successfully raised additional \$100,000 for the WikiCred program in 2022 in the form of a grant from the Wikimedia Foundation and funded 12 new projects to be launched in 2023

World Economic Forum

Toronto, Canada

Research fellow

Sep 2020 – Feb 2020

- Researched platform content safety standards and content moderation legislation in the US and EU.
- Contributed written materials WEF's Advancing Digital Safety: A Framework to Align Global Action
- Researched diversity and inclusion standards and impact on sports and societal harmony: How the power of sport can bring us together and drive social justice

UNESCO | Missions Publiques, NGO

National Strategic Partner

Toronto | Tunisa Mar 2020 – Mar 2021

- Raised \$40,000 USD in grants from the German international development organization GIZ to launch a series of citizenled policy dialogues in October 2020 on digital inclusion, open knowledge, cyber security, misinformation, and Al
- Directed an outreach and engagement campaign to organize 7 online and in-person group convenings on these subjects
- Directed, contributed and edited the project's final report.

Education

Toronto Metropolitan University

Secure & Responsible Tech Policy Foundations (Certificate)

Toronto, Canada Issue date: July 2023

University of Strathclyde, Glasgow

M.Sc. Operational Research (Business Analytics)

Glasgow, Scotland

Graduation Date: June 2019

SMU | University of Minnesota- Twin Cities

B.Sc. International Business

Minneapolis, USA Graduation Date: June 2014