Mariya Babikyan

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PROFILE

Highly skilled threat intelligence analyst possessing 4 years of international experience in various operational aspects of research and data analysis. Expertise in qualitative research, open source intelligence, social media monitoring, and risk assessment.

EMPLOYMENT HISTORY

Mar 2021

KYC Analyst, Tide Platform Limited

Sofia

- A leading analyst in the first line of defense against financial crime
- Cross-platform research upon onboarding (company registers, blacklists, adverse media, social media)
- CDD and EDD data analysis
- Client communication

Apr 2019 — Mar 2020

Geopolitical Lead Analyst Middle East, TOEST Foundation

Sofia

- Authored extensive geopolitical and security analyses on the Middle East for a leading online media edition
- Sourced and digested operational information to deliver to the highest journalistic standards by translating, interpreting and assessing sources
- Editing process active participation
- Pursued membership and attendance of roundtables in leading think-tanks, including Chatham House and the IISS, to ensure staying on top with security developments in the MENA region

www.toest.bg/author/mariya-babikyan

Feb 2020 — Oct 2020

Due Diligence Analyst, TenIntelligence Limited

London

- Completed multiple EDD projects in various jurisdictions in line with the AIM regulations on the London Stock Exchange to protect business assets & reputation
- Introduced the geopolitical strategic intelligence unit within the company and launched a compiling country and industry- specific database
- Tailored industry insight gathering through human intelligence methods
- Decreased project expenses by sourcing new online and offline data acquisition methods
- Assisted in peer work review and offered expertise to team members to ensure high quality delivery of projects

Jul 2018 — Dec 2018

Enhanced Threat Intelligence Intern, Intelligence Fusion

London

- Operated threat intelligence and situational awareness provision for Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Kosovo, Montenegro, North Macedonia and Serbia
- Sourced, assessed and analysed media feed in local languages to author timely threat briefings
- · Referred network of regional experts to contribute to the incident reporting efforts of the platform
- Authored 80+ concise reports daily

Nov 2017 — Aug 2018

Research Intern, International Institute for Counter-Terrorism

Herzliyya

- Led the production of a national threat analysis focused on a selected country in the Balkans
- Assessed institutional preparedness and the national legislation framework for countering organised crime by in-depth research
- Analysed the socio-economic climate to violent extremism tracing the development of right-wing groups and persons at risk of Islamic extremism
- Qualitative data analysis on external actors engaged in the funding and training of individuals for extremist purposes

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Research Intern with the Office of the Director General, UNESCO

Paris

- Conducted briefings on security threats to world cultural heritage sites in the region of the Middle East at the time of the Islamic State's active presence in Syria and Iraq
- •Assisted with the organisation of a high-level conference in UNESCO Head Quarters, focused on Fostering Women's Empowerment and Leadership by sending invitations, guest reception and event preparation coordination
- Provided administrative assistance in sourcing sensitive documentation for the office of the Director General

Jun 2016 — Jul 2016

Intern with the Office of the Vice Chancellor of the LIBE Committee, The European Parliament

Brussels

- Planned and produced qualitative analyses on the European Directives for Migration and Combatting terrorism for the Vice Chancellor of the LIBE Committee at the time of the active migration waves to Europe
- Actively pursued attendance of various committee sessions to brief the Vice Chancellor prior to voting sessions, press releases and public statements
- Conveyed key points of interest in MP statements during plenary sessions to coordinate team efforts in maintaining Vice Chancellor's agenda

Jul 2015 — Aug 2015

Research Intern with the Political Bureau, Representation of the European Commission

Sofia

- Devised a database of leading online and traditional media outlets in Bulgaria to support an annual report on media pluralism discovering beneficial ownership information, sponsorship and lobby groups
- Evaluated the media climate to assemble an overall picture of fake news spread
- Assisted in the organisation of a 100+ press conference by contact sourcing, invitation sending and reviewing event coordination

EDUCATION

Oct 2017 — Aug 2018

MA Counter-Terrorism and Homeland Security, IDC Herzliya, Lauder School of Government, Diplomacy & Strategy

Herzliyya

- Overall Result: A, 94/100
- Core modules: Psychological Aspects of Terrorism, Terror and Profiling, Radical Islamic Ideologies, Terrorism Fundraising

Sep 2014 — Jul 2017

BA in Politics & International Relations, The University of Nottingham

Nottingham, Paris

Overall Result: Upper Second-Class Honours

- Thesis: "The war for minds from Aristotle to the Islamic State" (First-Class)
- Core Modules: Ethnic Conflicts, The War in Iraq

Erasmus:

The Paris Institute of Political Studies, Sciences Po

• Core Modules: Geopolitics of the Middle East, Ethics of War

LANGUAGES Bulgarian Native speaker French A2 English Highly proficient Arabic A1