CURRICULUM VITAE – DR MOHAMMEDWESAM AMER

PERSONAL INFORMATION

ORCID: 0000-0002-8796-9097
Research areas: Critical discourse analysis, digital and social media, political and conflict communication, multimodal communication, Islamist movements, AI-mediated communication, platform governance, hypermedia warfare
Languages: Arabic (native), English (fluent), German (fluent)

PROFILE

Dr Mohammedwesam Amer is an established media and communication scholar with more than 15 years of international research, teaching, academic leadership, policy engagement, and capacity-building experience across Europe, the United Kingdom, the Middle East, and the United States.

His research examines how media technologies, digital platforms, and emerging AI systems shape political communication, legitimacy, mobilisation, identity, and power, particularly in conflict and crisis environments. His trajectory has spanned critical discourse analysis of war reporting, digital political communication, social media discourse, Islamist and extremist communication, multimodal analysis, and AI-mediated media. Grounded in Arabic-language media ecosystems and Middle Eastern political communication, his empirical research on Hamas, ISIS, and conflict communication provides distinctive expertise in non-state political and armed movements. He has conceptualised techno-discursive critical analysis (TDCA), the core framework underpinning HYPERWAR, integrating discourse analysis with the study of AI, algorithms, platforms, and technological infrastructures to investigate contemporary political communication and hypermedia warfare.

His additional contributions include research on the reconstruction of higher education in Gaza, support for displaced and at-risk scholars, engagement with international academic and policy networks, and collaboration with media, civil-society, and policy organisations, demonstrating a sustained commitment to translating research into societal, educational, and policy impact. His career has been shaped by the exceptionally challenging conditions affecting higher education and research in Gaza. Following the outbreak of war in October 2023 and the large-scale destruction of higher-education infrastructure, he was displaced but maintained a productive and internationally recognised research profile through competitive fellowships, publications, research leadership, policy engagement, and international collaboration. His international and interdisciplinary experiences have strengthened his capacity to lead research at the intersection of digital communication, artificial intelligence, platform governance, and contemporary conflict.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Cambridge Digital Humanities Research Centre, United Kingdom 01/07/2026–31/08/2027
Affiliated Lecturer

- Contributing to the Centre's interdisciplinary research environment at the intersection of digital humanities, digital media, AI, and computational approaches.
- Organised interdisciplinary symposium examining media, technology, and legal dimensions of contemporary conflicts, bringing together researchers and practitioners in digital communication, AI, conflict, and governance.

University of Cambridge, United Kingdom 01/09/2024–31/08/2026
Visiting Researcher, Department of Sociology

- Conducted independent, real-time empirical research on transformation in AI-mediated digital practices, political and conflict communication, and Hamas's communication strategies during the ongoing Gaza war, demonstrating capacity to lead research addressing an urgent and rapidly evolving conflict-related communication environment.
- Integrated activities with Cambridge Digital Humanities, CRASSH, and other interdisciplinary research networks.
- Concurrently undertook remote fellowships for independent research and international academic collaboration with the Middle East Studies Association Global Academy and the Centre of Islam and Global Challenges at Indonesian International Islamic University.

Institut Convergences Migration, France **01/06/2023–31/05/2025**
Principal Investigator, Rebuilding Higher Education in Post-War Gaza

- Supported by this institute comprising Sciences Po, CNRS, Collège de France, Université Paris 1 Panthéon-Sorbonne and other leading French academic institutions, remotely led an interdisciplinary research initiative examining the reconstruction and re-engineering of higher education institutions in Gaza following conflict, with a focus on institutional resilience, digital transformation, and future models of higher-education provision.

Hans-Bredow-Institut, Hamburg, Germany **01/12/2023–present**
Guest Researcher

- Conducting independent research on Hamas's digital communication and discursive practices
- examining their evolution during the Gaza War and across media contexts, with particular attention to digital platforms, multimodal communication, audience recontextualisation, and the transformation of political narratives in contemporary information environments.

GIGA Institute for Middle East Studies, Hamburg, Germany 01/03–31/07/2024
DAAD Short-Stay Research Fellow

- Short-term research and scholarly collaboration in the field of Middle East studies.
- conducted an exploratory study examines Hamas's digital communication and discourses during the Gaza War, tracing their evolution since 2006, recontextualization across audiences, regional and global effects, and implications for critical discourse and Palestinian studies.

Gaza University, Palestine 01/09/2020–31/12/2023
Dean, Faculty of Mass Communication and Languages
Assistant Professor of Media and Discourse Studies

- Academic and institutional leadership responsibilities included faculty management, curriculum development, academic quality assurance, staff mentoring, postgraduate education, and research development within a challenging higher-education environment.
- Led research and teaching in media, political communication, and discourse studies, examining the relationship between media, political actors, conflict, identity, and international politics, with a particular focus on the Middle East and the digital transformation of political communication.

Centre for Middle Eastern Studies, Harvard University, United States 02/01–31/10/2022
Research Fellow

- Conducted research on digital political communication, Islamist movements, Hamas, and social media discourse, strengthening international research leadership and collaboration in conflict studies and Middle East research.

Newcastle University, United Kingdom 02/02/2017–01/02/2019
Marie Skłodowska-Curie Postdoctoral Research Fellow

- Research on media warfare, digital discourse, Islamist movements, radicalisation, political communication, technologically mediated discourse and techno-discursive analysis.
- In addition to developing independent research expertise on the MSCA PF project Media Warfare and the Discourse of Islamic Revival: The Case of the Islamic State, contributed to European (Dis)Union: Digital Radicalisation, Nationalism in Europe's Public Sphere and Techno-Discursive Analysis of Digital Discourses (TeDADD): Right-Wing Populism, Misogyny and Islamophobia in Cyberspace projects.
- Demonstrated international research leadership as Founder and First Chair of the Middle East Chapter of the Marie Curie Alumni Association, connecting researchers and institutions across Europe and the Middle East.

EDUCATION

PhD in Media Studies (Distinction / Magna Cum Laude) 01/09/20111 to 30/10/2015
Department of Language, Literature and Media, University of Hamburg, Germany

- Thesis: War Reporting in the International Press (Supervisors: Prof. Drs. Jannis Androutsopoulos and Irene Neverla)
- Doctoral research examined international media representations of the Gaza war 2008-2009, establishing the researcher's expertise in critical discourse analysis and media representations of conflict, ideology, and power.

MA in Applied Linguistics and TESOL 02-01-2008 - 01/07/2009
School of Humanities and Social Sciences, Anglia Ruskin University, Cambridge, United Kingdom

- Dissertation: Coverage of the Israeli Siege of the Gaza Strip in the British Press (Supervisor: Dr Sebastian Rasinger)

BA in English Literature and Education 02-09-1998 - 15/05/2001
Al-Azhar University, Gaza

SELECTED PEER-REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS & SCIENTIFIC OUTPUTS

- Takhun, Richard, Frangis Dadfar Spanta, **Mohammedwesam Amer,** and Andrea Fleschenberg. "Reflections on Scholasticide and Epistemicide: Testimonies from Myanmar and Afghanistan to Palestine and Beyond." *International Quarterly for Asian Studies* 56, no. 3 (2025): 231-265.
    - contributes to scholarship on scholasticide and epistemicide by connecting war-affected academic experiences across Myanmar, Afghanistan, and Palestine, while foregrounding epistemic justice, academic freedom, resistance, and knowledge preservation.
- **Amer, M. & Ashour, R. (2026).** Protection of Palestinian journalists: Analysing Israeli violations during the Gaza War 2023–2025 within the framework of international humanitarian law. *Media, War & Conflict*, *0*(0).
    - Contributes to scholarship on media, conflict, and international humanitarian law by critically examining the protection of Palestinian journalists during the Gaza War and exposing gaps in legal accountability and press freedom.
- **Amer, M. (2025).** Framing Resistance in Hamas's Military Media: Mobilisation Strategies and Discursive Narratives During the Gaza War (2023–2025). *Islamic Studies Review* 4(2). https://doi.org/10.56529/isr.v4i2.518
    - Examines how Hamas constructs resistance narratives and mobilises audiences during the ongoing conflict, providing empirical expertise for HYPERWAR's analysis of conflict communication and information warfare.
- **Amer, Mohammedwesam** and Atbiqa, Abdullah Mohammed (2025). The Future of the Arab Media Industry in Utilizing Artificial Intelligence Technologies: A Foresight Study (2024 to 2034)," *Middle East Journal of Communication Studies*: Vol. 5: No. 1, Article 7. DOI: http://doi.org/10.71220/2585-005-001-007
  Available at: https://mejcs.meu.edu.jo/home/vol5/iss1/7
    - Advances scholarship on AI and Arab media by identifying adoption opportunities, implementation barriers, and implications for ethical, inclusive, and effective media transformation.
- **Amer, Mohammedwesam,** Hassan, Zaha, Iriqat, Dalal, Marzouka, Marcelo, Nusseibeh, Jamal and Yousef, Ayman (2025). A Palestinian Armistice Plan: Charting a rights-based transition for Palestinian-Israeli peace. The Cambridge Initiative for Peace Settlements, Cambridge. Available at https://cambridgepeace.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/06/Palestinian-Armistice-Plan.pdf
    - Translates academic research into policy-relevant outputs addressing contemporary geopolitical challenges.
- Alsemeiri, I.M., Alzaeem, I.S., & Amer, M. (2025). Law, Power, and Language: A Comparative Study of Western Responses to the ICC's Netanyahu-Gallant Warrants. *International Journal of Linguistics, Literature and Translation*, *8*(4), 181-192.
    - Contributes to international relations and political discourse scholarship by exposing tensions between international law, geopolitical power, and the evolving global order.

Amer, M. (2024). Critical Multimodal Discourse Analysis: A Case Study of a Palestinian Movement. *An-Najah University Journal for Research - B (Humanities)* 38(1), 209–238.

- Extends critical discourse analysis expertise into multimodal analysis, providing a methodological foundation for examining text, image, video, and symbolic communication in digitally mediated conflict environments.

- **Amer, M. (2023).** Hamas in Cyberspace: Social Media and Forms of Political Expression. *Arab Media & Society* (35).https://doi.org/10.70090/MA23HCSM
    - Provides empirical analysis of Hamas's digital communication and political expression, directly informing HYPERWAR's focus on non-state actors, platform-mediated communication, and digital conflict.

- Hashmi, S., Khan, M., & **Amer, M.** (2023) Islamophobic Discourses in India During COVID-19. *Journal of Intercultural Communication Research*, 52(4). 419–439.
    - Extends the researcher's thematic expertise to digital hate discourse, populism, and transnational communication.
- **Amer, M.,** Atbiqa, A., & Alsini, A. **(2023).** AI in Arab Media Institutions: A Field Study. *Al-Aqsa University Journal – Humanities Series, 27(3).* 30-45 (in Arabic).
    - Establishes the researcher's emerging expertise in AI adoption and transformation within Arab media institutions.
- **KhosraviNik, M. & Amer, M. (2022).** Social media and terrorism discourse: the Islamic State's (IS) social media discursive content and practices. *Critical Discourse Studies*, *19*(2), 124–143.
    - Integrates critical discourse studies with digital extremist communication analysis, providing important foundation for understanding how non-state actors use digital platforms for ideological communication and mobilisation.
- **Amer, M** (2017). Critical discourse analysis of war reporting in the international press: the case of the Gaza war of 2008–2009. *Palgrave Commun* 3, 13. 1-11 https://doi.org/10.1057/s41599-017-0015-2
    - Establishes foundational expertise in critical discourse analysis and conflict reporting, representing the starting point of the trajectory that subsequently developed towards digital and techno-discursive analysis.
- **Amer, M.** & Hammad, A. (2022). Media Freedom and the Corona Crisis: Applied Study on the Admins of Social Media Platforms, Facebook as a Model. In Amer,Mohammedwesam (Ed.) The Palestinian Issue in the New Media and the Structure of Media Discourse. 1st Edition. 345 Pages. Berlin: Arab Democratic Centre.
    - Contributes to research on media freedom and digital governance by examining how social media platforms, particularly Facebook, shaped freedom of expression during the COVID-19 crisis.
- **Amer, M. (2019).** Terrorism and Social Media Discourse Studies: Issues, Challenges and Opportunities, in 'Liberal Arts Perspectives on Globalism and Transnationalism', eds. Hyun Wu Lee and Mark Van de Logt (Newcastle upon Tyne, UK: Cambridge Scholars Publishing. 148-166
    - Contributes to scholarship on terrorism and digital media by critically examining social media discourse, methodological challenges, and emerging opportunities for studying online extremist communication.
- **Amer, M.** (2018). Critical Discourse Analysis of Journalistic Practices in the US and UK Press: The Case of the Gaza War of 2008-2009 in 'Reporting from the Wars 1850 – 201'. The origins and evolution of the war correspondent, Turner, Barry; Ibáñez, Daniel Barredo and Grattan, Steven James, VernonPress. 151-190
    - Contributes to research on war and media by examining how technological advances and frontline coverage transform public perceptions, news practices, and the conduct of contemporary warfare.
- **Amer, M. (2023).** *Discourse of the Official Digital Palestinian Diplomacy on Social Media Platforms – Facebook as a Model*. Gaza University Journal. 30-42
    - advances research on digital diplomacy by examining how the Palestinian Ministry of Foreign Affairs constructs political narratives, assigns responsibility, and mobilises international support through strategic social media discourse.
- **Amer, M. (2017).** Palestinian Refugees in Iraq. *Journal of Palestinian Refugee Studies*. 2(7).9-14
    - contributes to research on Palestinian displacement by documenting the historical experiences, demographic situation, and changing conditions of Palestinian refugees in Iraq.

INVITED PRESENTATIONS

- **Workshop Trainer**, Synthetic Influence: Generative AI, Representation, and Bias in Political Communication and Computational Propaganda, Cambridge Social Data School, Cambridge Digital Humanities, 8-12/09/2025.
- **Invited Panel Participant**, Future of Journalism Conference, Cardiff University, 13/09/2025.
- **Keynote Speaker**, UN Support Mission in Libya Seminar Series for Media Professionals and Students, 24/07/2025.
- **Keynote Speaker**, Religious Discourse in Wartime: Analysing Hamas's Military Media Strategy, American Academy of Religion Conference, 24/6/2025.

- **Keynote Speaker**, War and Media Disinformation Campaigns in the Israeli War on Gaza Since October 7th, American University in Cairo, 24/02/2025.

CONFERENCE ORGANISATION

- **Co-Organiser**, Hypermedia Warfare and Techno-Legal Entanglements Symposium, Cambridge Digital Humanities (CDH), King's College Cambridge, United Kingdom, 10/07/2026.
- **Head of Scientific Committee and Keynote Speaker**, Media and the Palestinian Issue Amidst Digital Transformation: Reality and Prospects for the Future, Palestine Technical University, 29-30/06/2025.
- **Conference Chair**, The Palestinian Media in the Heart of the Storm: One Year Since the Assassination of Journalist Shireen Abu Akleh, Gaza University, 30/05/2023.
- **Conference Chair**, Media and the Palestinian Cause: Reality and Expectations, Gaza University, 2-3/08/2021.

ACADEMIC SERVICE

Founder and First Chair, Middle East Chapter, Marie Curie Alumni Association (MCAA) 01/07/2018–30/12/2020

- Establishing and coordinating an international research network connecting researchers across Europe and the Middle East.

AWARDS

First Place, Data-Driven Research Award in MENA 01/01–31/12/2021

- Initiated by Junior Researcher Coach in partnership with UNESCO, the University of Liverpool, Ghedex, NodeXL, and other international partners, recognising excellence in data-driven research focused on the MENA region.

RESEARCH FUNDING

CARA / International Institute of Education Scholar Rescue Fund Fellowship 01/09/2024–31/08/2026
Department of Sociology, University of Cambridge, United Kingdom

British Academy/CARA/Leverhulme Researchers at Risk Programme 01/10/2025–30/08/2026
University of Cambridge, United Kingdom

MESA Global Academy Fellowship 01/09/2024–31/08/2025
Middle East Studies Association, United States

Research Fellowship 02/01/2025–30/06/2025
Centre of Islam and Global Challenges, Indonesian International Islamic University

Principal Investigator, "Rebuilding Higher Education in Post-War Gaza" 01/06/2023–31/05/2025
Institut Convergences Migration (ICM), France

DAAD Short-Stay Research Fellowship 01/03/2024–31/07/2024
GIGA Institute for Middle East Studies, Hamburg, Germany

Fulbright Research Fellowship 01/01/2022–31/12/2022
Centre for Middle Eastern Studies, Harvard University, United States

Marie Skłodowska-Curie Postdoctoral Fellowship 01/02/2017–28/02/2019
Newcastle University, United Kingdom

DAAD Scholarship for PhD Research 01/10/2011–30/10/2015
University of Hamburg, Germany

SUPERVISION & EXAMINATION

Main Supervisor

- Strategies and Standards for Building Organisational Identity through Social Media Platforms in Palestinian Secondary Schools: An Analytical Study, Arab American University in Palestine, ongoing.
- Visual Framing of Influencers' Short Videos and Audience Engagement on TikTok in Mobilising International Awareness of the Palestinian Narrative in the October 7th War 2023, Arab American University in Palestine, ongoing.
- A Critical Discourse Analysis of International Media Coverage: The Case of the Assassination of Palestinian Journalist Shireen Abu Akleh, Gaza University, 15/052025.
- First Supervisor for completed MA dissertations, Newcastle University, 2017–2019.

Examiner

- MPhil dissertation on strategic messaging and Telegram communication in the post-October 7 context, University of Cambridge, Faculty of Asian and Middle Eastern Studies, 15/062025.

TEACHING

- **University of Cambridge (2025),** teaching and supervision for SOC3: Modern Societies II – Global Social Problems and Dynamics of Resistance and SOC7: Media, Culture and Society.
- **Islamic University of Gaza (01/03/2024–30/06/2024),** online teaching, *Media Topics in English* for MA in Media and Journalism.
- **Gaza University, Islamic University of Gaza, Al-Quds Open University (2020–2023),** undergraduate and postgraduate courses in media and communication, digital discourse, journalism, digital media, and research methods.

PEER REVIEW

- *Palgrave Communications*
- *Australian Journal of Linguistics*
- *Critical Discourse Studies*
- *Social Media + Society*
- *Journalism*
- *Journal of Discourses (Majalat Khitabat)*
- Newton Prize, UK National Commission for UNESCO

KNOWLEDGE EXCHANGE

Technical Group Member, Palestinian Armistice Plan 09/2024–present

- Translating academic research into relevant outputs for policymakers, NGOs, journalists, media organisations, and civil-society actors through policy briefings, academic outreach, public lectures, and media contributions on digital and conflict communication, political discourse, AI, media governance, and peacebuilding.

Founder, The Gaza Center for Research in Humanities and Social Sciences (GCR-HSS) 07/2026–present

- This initiative contributes to interdisciplinary research by integrating humanities, social sciences, digital humanities, and emerging technologies to address Palestinian, regional, and global challenges through evidence-based knowledge and strategic thinking.

Founder and CEO, Media Access Centre for Media Relations and Studies 01/10/2022–31/11/2023

- Leading initiatives in media research, communication consultancy, training, and public engagement.

Co-Founder, Mashahid Company for Media Production and Training, Gaza 02/02/2010–30/08/2011

- Developed media-production and professional-training activities for journalists and communication practitioners.

Reporter and Correspondent, Paydesk UK, Hamburg, Germany 7-8/07/2017

- Reported on international political events, including the G20 Summit, for international media outlets and agencies.

Media and Communication Expert, Vielfalt Company and Pinneberg Jugendamt, Germany 2016–2017

- Worked on communication, integration, and media-related initiatives involving refugee communities.

Social Worker, German Red Cross, Hamburg, Germany 2015

- Supported social and community initiatives during the European refugee response.