

Yacine Ben Chikha

Arabic Translator/ Interpreter

Tunis, Tunisia

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SUMMARY

Experienced Translator / Interpreter with 15 years of expertise in facilitating effective communication and understanding between diverse cultures. Specialized in working with asylum seekers and refugees, providing accurate and sensitive interpretation services in French, English, and Arabic. Proven ability to navigate complex cultural aspects while maintaining professionalism and confidentiality.

EXPERIENCE

Independent Freelance Translator | Freelancer | Worldwide | December 2007 - Present

- Ensured interpretation in Conferences, Seminars, guided visits, and accompanying clients.
- Enhanced the accuracy of translated content by meticulously reviewing and proofreading 200+ pages per week, ensuring adherence to client-specific terminology and style guides, thereby upholding a 99% satisfaction rate among clients.
- Translated over 500,000 words in legal and technical documents from English to Arabic, maintaining a 99% client satisfaction rate and expanding the clientele by 25% through referrals and exceptional service quality.

Cultural Mediator / Interpreter | International Organization for Migration | Tunisia | November 2023

- Facilitated over 50 successful mediations between USA Resettlement officers, healthcare providers and non-English speaking refugees and asylum seekers, enhancing communication and understanding while ensuring accurate cultural interpretation.
- Facilitated clear communication by conveying complex legal and medical terminology across English, Arabic and French for over 50 persons, improving understanding and cooperation between USA Officers and non-English speaking individuals.
- Ensured cultural sensitivity and accuracy in interpretation, improving communication and fostering cooperation among diverse stakeholders.

Interpreter / Cultural Mediator | ITM Interpretation (for the account of the European Union Agency for Asylum/ Fedasil Belgium) | Liège / Belgium | April 2022 - July 2022

- Assisted in the mediation activity objectively and impartially during screening and debriefing.
- Facilitated communication for over 100 medical consultations by providing precise interpretation and cultural mediation between English and French/ English and Arabic, significantly reducing misunderstandings and enhancing patient care outcomes.
- Facilitated communication in over 300 legal, medical, and educational assignments, providing accurate interpretation and cultural mediation between Fedasil staff and Asylum Seekers ensuring a 95% client satisfaction rate.

Cultural Mediator / Interpreter | Solten Group (for the account of the European Agency for the Management of Operational Cooperation at the External Borders (FRONTEX) | Cartagena, Spain) | July 2021 - October 2021

- Facilitated successful communication between Frontex staff and illegal migrants (English - Arabic).
- Provided information on different sets of values, orientations to life, beliefs, assumptions April Agency, Frontex Mediator, and socio-cultural conventions by clarifying culture-specific expressions and concepts.
- Assisted in the mediation activity objectively and impartially during the screening.
- Facilitated communication between parties from diverse cultural backgrounds in over 200 screening sessions, employing linguistic skills and cultural knowledge to ensure accurate and sensitive interpretations.
- Facilitated over 500 bilingual mediation sessions between English and Arabic speakers, enhancing mutual understanding and contributing to the resolution of cultural conflicts in a community service non-profit organization.

Senior Translator/ Interpreter | National Democratic Institute | Tunisia | March 2019 - September 2019

- Translated, proofread, edited, and reviewed the project's documents from English into Arabic and vice versa.
- Ensured simultaneous and consecutive interpretation for the project's team when needed.

- Coordinated shared translation/interpretation tasks with colleagues from within and outside the Organization.
- Delivered 300+ simultaneous interpretation sessions and translated over 500,000 words from English to Arabic in technical documentation, maintaining nuanced accuracy with a 99% team leader's satisfaction rate.
- Interpreted and translated over 3000 pages of complex legal and technical documents from English to Arabic and vice versa, ensuring 100% accuracy in content, context, and technical terminology, contributing to favorable outcomes in the project delivery.

Translator/ Interpreter | VNG International | Tunisia | January 2016 - April 2018

- Translated, proofread, edited, and revised the organization documents from English to Arabic language and vice versa.
- Interpreted through simultaneous interpretation in the booth, or consecutive /whispered interpretation of the organization's oral statements.
- Coordinated shared translation/interpretation tasks with colleagues from within and outside the Organization.
- Enhanced communication for non-English speaking communities by translating and interpreting over 500 documents and facilitating 300+ bilingual conversations, ensuring precise conveyance of nuanced cultural expressions.
- Interpreted and translated over 5000 pages of complex legal and technical documents from Arabic to English, while maintaining high accuracy, which proved crucial for the organization's implementation and reporting.

Translator/ Project Manager | Lead Tunisia | Tunisia | January 2010 - December 2015

- Led a high-stakes project for localization, translating, and adapting business documents from English to French and Arabic for the Tunisian market, handling over 500 pages of technical material.
- Oversaw the expansion of the organization's operations into the Tunisian market, leading a multicultural team of 12 members and achieving a 30% year-over-year revenue increase within the first two years.
- Led a team of 5 translators to deliver a large-scale translation project of over 500,000 words within a tight 3-month deadline, while maintaining 99% accuracy and client satisfaction.
- Facilitated and mediated cross-disciplinary discussions among a team of 20 representatives, strengthening international partnerships and advancing project timelines by 25%.

Translation Project Manager | World Federation of Trade Unions | Greece | September 2007 - December 2009

- Translated technical papers and other related project materials (Arabic, French, and English).
- Reviewed outsourced translations for accuracy and consistency of meaning, grammar, and syntax.
- Ensured live Interpretation in co-facilitating training, during bilateral meetings, seminars, conferences, and accompanying foreign guests.
- Coordinated translation projects in 4 languages for legal and technical documents, managing a team of 12+ freelance translators and ensuring timely delivery with 99% accuracy, leveraging fluency in the 4 languages and expertise in CAT tools.
- Spearheaded a team of 30+ translators to deliver multilingual projects in 5 different languages, achieving consistent on-time project completion rates of over 95% while managing a schedule of 150+ projects per year.
- Oversaw a team of 25 translators and 10 proofreaders in a multi-language project that delivered over 500,000 words across 5 languages within a tight 3-month deadline, ensuring exceptional quality and client satisfaction.

EDUCATION

2006-2007: MA Human Rights and Democratization, University of Malta, Malta

2002 - 2006: BA Communications, Journalism and Public Relations, Institute of Press and Information Sciences, Tunis- Tunisia

CERTIFICATIONS

IOM Certification Package | IOM Tunisia | 2023

- Ethics and Conduct at IOM: The Values We Share
- Information Security Awareness
- IOM Online Data Protection Principles
- Working with Interpreters
- Prevention of Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (PSEA)

Certificate on Interpreting in the Asylum Context | European Union Agency for Asylum | 2022