

Aigerim KALI

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Experienced Journalist with Bachelor and Master Degrees in International journalism and Political Science with overall twenty years work experience in industry. Writing news and features. International Scholarship winner. Fluent in English, Russian and Kazakh. Studied for a Masters degree in "International Journalism" at the University of Sussex, UK. Focusing on themes as education, social issues, energy and sustainability. Experienced and committed communication manager with excellent communication, organisational, interpersonal, representative, and creative thinking skills and working experience in Media Centre of world EXPO-2017 in Astana, as well as fourteen years in Public Relations overall.

RELEVANT JOURNALISM EXPERINECE

January 2025 - present: Toppres.kz Information Agency, Chief-Editor

- Covering news stories concerning social-economic issues, international agenda, launch of new productions, energy, ecology, interregional projects etc.
Reports covered: *"Religion has nothing to do with it!? Why don't Kazakhstanis donate organs after death?"*, *"New SCO Secretary General Yermekbayev: "In our organization, no one will command anyone"*, *"Will the young and ambitious Kazakhstan team repeat the success of almost 30 years ago in Harbin? etc.*

August 2024 - present: CGTN Central Asia, Correspondent, Freelance

- Producing news packages from Kazakhstan and Central Asia on request

June 2024 - present: Associated Press, Fixer-Producer, Freelance

- Organised and prepared work of the fixer-producers for the SCO Summit in Astana in 2024
- Supporting a large group of Chinese journalists from CCTV and CGTN broadcasters for the Summit
- Finding ideas, locations, and contributors for the stories in mutual Kazakhstan-China relationships. Reports organised for the coverage: *"Opening of the Beijing language and culture universities' brunch in Kazakhstan," "Trans-Caspian International Transport Route (Middle Corridor)," "Chinese Electric Vehicles growth in Kazakhstan", "The My Altai film aired on the local 7th channel" etc.*

Mar 2018: Atameken Business Channel, Freelance Journalist

- Preparing news reports to Kazakhstan about current affairs in the United Kingdom and EU
Recent reports covered: *"Brexit deadlines," "Homelessness in the UK," "Skripal's case: Russian spy in the UK," "Unprecedented cold winter of 2018 in UK", etc.* (links on request)

June 2015 – Sep 2015: JSC Kazcontent, Observer for BNews.kz news website

- Chaired online-conferences with heads of Ministries and other official institutions and top-managers of the national companies

- Discussed current affairs in Kazakhstan and the world in the particular industries
- Involved mainstream audience for discussion through collecting queries for high profiled guests and solving the issues when possible
- Promoted the project on social media

**Jan 2015 – Aug 2015: 24.kz, State News Channel
Journalist/Presenter of News of Culture**

- Covered news events related to arts: painting exhibitions, festivals, concerts, book fairs, and cinema premieres, etc.
- Conducted interviews with well-known home and overseas artists and musicians
- Wrote scenario's for each episode of the programmes
- Worked in a team with producers, writers, camera operators and other members of the crew
- Generated the ideas and venues for new programmes

Oct 2007 – Sep 2011: News and Current Affairs Division, JSC Television and Radio Corporation “Kazakhstan”, Journalist

- Prepared reports on local news events
- Found out the most interesting angles to tell the stories within eight-minute programme concerning education and culture in Kazakhstan
- Conducted interviews with contributors and people directly involved in stories
- Learned to handle an appropriate multimedia software and equipment
- Attended briefings, press lunches, meetings, and press-tours

SUMMARY: My experience of working in the journalism field has provided me with useful personal and practical skills. I have learned how to tell stories, how to find contributors, resolve ethical and safety issues, how to interact with people from different backgrounds, expand my knowledge on diverse topics, cope with deadlines, and work on camera.

EXPO AND PR EXPERIENCE

Sep 2015 – Jan 2018: Public Relations Department, JSC “National Company “Astana EXPO-2017”. The company, which organised World EXPO-2017 in Astana, Kazakhstan

Senior Manager of Public Relations Department, Manager of Media Centre

- Worked on the strategic communication plans for positive coverage of EXPO-2017 Astana news to media locally, regionally, and internationally to achieve the goal in 2 million overseas visitors
- Generated Media publications to different types of Media including off-line and online formats and social media
- Chaired press-conferences and event-briefings (including one with President of Finland)
- Participated in setting up and launching of operational processes in EXPO Media Centre
- Managed smooth work of a huge number of journalists within Opening and Closing ceremonies of EXPO-2017 in Astana

- Managed all pre-briefing processes: receiving information from stakeholders, media invitations, preparations of media-kits, venue, and other organisational aspects
- Maximum liaison with foreign journalists and providing access to all large-scale major events within the exhibition: National days of countries, openings of national pavilions, special events, and meetings
- Collaborated with Host broadcasters to provide accredited media with a photo and video content

EDUCATION

Sep 2018 – Sep 2019: International Journalism MA (Distinction Diploma), University of Sussex, UK

Fully covered by “Bolashak” International Scholarship of Government of Kazakhstan

Key modules included:

<i>Journalism in transition</i>	<i>Advanced Journalism Skills</i>	<i>Journalism project</i>
<i>Broadcast News and Features</i>	<i>Global News Industries</i>	<i>News and Feature writing</i>

Author of the following journalist projects written in English:

“Salt and tears of the Aral Sea.” Feature about environmental disaster concerning devastation of the Aral Sea once fourth biggest lake in the world because of cotton production.

“Why it is still beneficial to keep orphanages?” Podcast concerning living conditions of orphans in Kazakhstan.

“Who attacked the Gatwick?” News piece about drone attack to Gatwick airport in London

“Stacey Dooley resumes to Brighton.” Short piece about meeting with “BBC Three” presenter, the author of “Stacey Dooley investigates” TV programme on BBC

“How Brexit affects UK’s migration policy” 4-minute video story about tightened rules of getting visa for overseas artists to perform in UK

Out of vision report from Brighton Marathon-2019

Academic articles:

“The role of citizen journalism in the future of journalism. The extent to which citizen journalism has assisted the practice of professional journalism and the issues it has faced.”

“How digital media and international networks have helped mobilise activism and social movements in the global context. The issues of public opinion and political participation.”

Sep 2010 – July 2012: Journalism and Political Science MA, Eurasian National University after Lev Gumilyov, Kazakhstan (educational grant)

Sep 2005 – June 2009: Bachelor of Journalism, Eurasian National University after Lev Gumilyov, Kazakhstan (graduated with “Distinction”)

SKILLS

Communication Skills

Interpersonal skills

Organisational Skills

Problem solving

Highly adaptable

Creative thinking

IT-experienced in using MS Word, Excel, PowerPoint, Mind Mapping, and Outlook
Proficient in InDesign, Adobe Premiere Pro, Adobe Audition

CERTIFICATES

Appreciation Letter, Chairman of EXPO-2017 Exhibition Mr. Akhmetzhan Yessimov
Apprenticeship in European Broadcasting Corporation DEUTCHE WELLE, Berlin-Bonn, Germany

Certificate of Russian management school on Public relations practical course, Saint Petersburg, Russia

Participant of marketing and PR workshops within Moscow PR WEEK organised by Moscow State Institute of International Affairs (MGIMO), Moscow, Russia

ASPECT EDUCATION Summer English school, Los Angeles, USA

Stafford House English School Certificate (part of Cambridge Group) on attending 6 months courses and finishing on Advanced level, London, UK

Fact checking Training scheme of Medianet international school of distance journalism, Astana, Kazakhstan

Appreciation Letters, Ministry of Education and Science of the Republic of Kazakhstan
“Best radio journalist” of 2010 within Astana Journalism Awards

A prize of A. Syzganov National Scientific Surgery Centre for publication on heart diseases

The second place on the journalistic competition organised by The United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF)

VOLUNTARY WORK AND PROJECTS

Member of Tidy up Team Volunteer litter pickers, Brighton, UK

The author of children musical contest within EXPO-2017

Created a community of foreign correspondents in Astana

LANGUAGES

English (Fluent), Russian (Fluent), Kazakh (Fluent)