

# Lakhdar Ben Zahia

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## Summary

Experienced Senior Software Engineer with 8+ years of experience building scalable systems for startups and tech companies across Europe and Africa. Proven track record in architecting high-availability platforms, designing secure APIs, and leading cross-functional teams. Specialized in Node.js, Python, GCP. Passionate about automation, clean code, and backend performance, AI, LLMs.

## Work Experience

### Sr. Backend Software Engineer, YASSIR GmbH, Berlin, Germany

01/2024 – Present

- Designed and launched an AI-powered virtual assistant utilizing LLMs integrated with a CRM knowledge base, which processes thousands of customer support inquiries monthly.
- Architected and implemented scalable ETL pipelines using GCP tools (including Dataflow and Pub/Sub) to extract, normalize, and unify high-volume data from various sources, enabling critical business analytics and reporting.
- Built a centralized authentication system with Keycloak, managing over 2 million daily active users (DAUs) and ensuring GDPR compliance across mobility, delivery, and fintech products.
- Integrated Apigee API gateway to streamline authentication across multiple products.
- Led the end-to-end design and development of internal CRM dashboards.
- Mentored engineers and actively participated in cross-functional architecture reviews.
- Technologies utilized: JavaScript, TypeScript, Node.js, Express.js, NestJS, REST APIs, Jest, MongoDB, Redis, Golang.

### Sr. Backend Software Engineer, KOLLABO AG, Berlin, Germany

11/2022 – 12/2023

- Contributed to a startup focused on transforming the skilled blue-collar workforce.
- Engineered scalable APIs and enhanced backend stability through improved testing and logging practices.
- Facilitated smooth releases and deployment pipelines utilizing Heroku and AWS infrastructure.
- Actively engaged in cross-team knowledge-sharing initiatives.
- Technologies: TypeScript, Node.js, Express.js, NestJS, REST APIs, Jest, PostgreSQL, Redis, Git, Heroku, AWS, Lambda Functions, S3, Heroku Connect, Terraform, Datalog.

### Sr. Backend Software Engineer, Healy World GmbH, Berlin, Germany

11/2021 – 11/2022

- Enhanced backend performance during API migration for wearable health technology.
- Led a database migration project and introduced advanced full-text search capabilities via Algolia.

- Contributed to software releases and deployment strategies utilizing GCP and Firebase stack.
- Technologies: Python, TypeScript, Node.js, Express.js, NestJS, REST APIs, Jest, Firestore, Git, GCP, Firebase Cloud Functions, Google Cloud Storage, Algolia, Search Engines, NLP, Terraform, Google Logging.

#### Founding Fullstack Engineer, Docta (Startup), Algiers, Algeria

01/2020 – 11/2021

- Developed the MVP for a medical appointment booking system, leading technical design decisions and building the tech team.
- Architected a monolithic REST API, deployed via AWS ECS.
- Managed CI/CD processes, frontend-backend integration, and cloud operations.
- Technologies: TypeScript, Node.js, Express.js, NestJS, React.js, REST APIs, Jest, PostgreSQL, Socket.IO, Redis, Git, ECS, AWS, Lambda Functions, S3, Terraform, CloudWatch.

#### Fullstack Software Engineer, YASSIR SPA, Algiers, Algeria

09/2017 – 12/2019

- Developed Algeria's first ride-hailing app backend services targeting B2C.
- Designed and executed a B2B platform from backend to frontend.
- Constructed secure, scalable REST APIs and facilitated expansion across the African market.
- Maintained deployments and releases on GCP.
- Technologies: Python, JavaScript, TypeScript, Node.js, Express.js, REST APIs, React.js, MongoDB, Socket.IO, Redis, Pub/Sub, Git, GKE, Heroku, Cloud Functions, GCP, Google Cloud Storage.

## Education

#### Master's, Computer Engineering, École Normale Supérieure (ENS), Algiers, Algeria

09/2012 – 06/2017

## Skills

TypeScript JavaScript Python Node.js Express.js NestJS FastApi  
 PostgreSQL MongoDB Redis GCP testing AWS LLMs  
 Mentored engineers Cross-functional teams Knowledge-sharing

## Languages

|         |          |        |              |
|---------|----------|--------|--------------|
| English | Advanced | Arabic | Native       |
| French  | Advanced | German | Intermediate |