Kazim Ciris, Ph.D.

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Target Position: Senior Site Reliability / DevOps Engineer

Professional Summary

IT professional (Software & Systems Engineering) with 15+ years of frontline and leadership experience across infrastructure reliability, DevOps engineering, automation, system hardening, cybersecurity, and cloud operations in enterprise, academic, and international mission-critical environments. Strong background designing and optimizing CI/CD pipelines, performing failure analysis, governing logging, monitoring, and access control, and leading secure, scalable deployments. Deep hands-on expertise with Java-based automation, Python, shell scripting, SQL queries, Linux systems, cloud platforms (AWS/Azure), containerization, IAM, Zero-Trust principles, and enterprise security tools (IBM QRadar, CrowdStrike).

Core Competencies

- Infrastructure Architecture & Security
- CI/CD Automation (GitHub, Jenkins, Maven)
- Cloud Engineering (AWS, Azure)
- Linux & Windows Server Administration
- Configuration & Environment Management
- Logging, Monitoring & Observability (SIEM, Splunk-like tools)
- Application Reliability & Deployment Optimization
- Zero-Trust, IAM, Access Policy Enforcement
- Incident Response & Production Troubleshooting
- Containerization & Orchestration (Docker, Kubernetes familiarity)
- Test Automation (Java, Shell Scripting, Selenium, TestNG)
- Agile Leadership & Technical Team Enablement

Professional Experience

University of Cincinnati – Cincinnati, OH | Postdoctoral Fellow | Software Project Manager | July 2024 – Present

- Architect and manage secure, reliable application environments for state-level systems (ODRC & Cincinnati Police).

- Lead multidisciplinary teams across software engineering, cybersecurity, data, BI, and infrastructure under Agile/DevOps frameworks.
- Oversee CI/CD pipeline development, automated build/test workflows, and deployment governance.
- Establish standards for monitoring, logging, IAM, configuration management, and operational compliance.
- Conduct root-cause analysis across application, infrastructure, and data layers.
- Improve system robustness through automation, performance benchmarking, and security baselining.

Cydeo – VA (Remote) | Cybersecurity Analyst | Aug 2023 – Sep 2024

- Monitored enterprise systems for reliability, availability, and anomalies using IBM QRadar and CrowdStrike Falcon.
- Performed incident response, fault isolation, and log-driven diagnostics.
- Improved IAM and access governance workflows, reducing misconfiguration-related downtime.
- Produced runbooks, operational playbooks, and system-health reports for engineering and leadership.

Thermo Fisher Scientific – CA (Remote) | Software QA Engineer | Automation & DevOps Support | Jan 2020 – Jun 2023

- Designed and executed automated testing frameworks (Java, Selenium, TestNG) improving system reliability by 25%.
- Supported DevOps teams with CI/CD (Jenkins, Git, Maven) to reduce release errors and pipeline failures.
- Performed functional, API, database, and hardware-interface testing for sequencing and embedded systems.
- Participated in performance, stability, and environmental reliability testing.

Self-Employed – Türkiye | Digital Forensics | 2016 – 2019

- Conducted system-level diagnostics, data-integrity validation, and hardware/network inspection.
- Delivered detailed technical reports for legal cases, failure root-cause findings, and security gap analysis.

United Nations / NATO – Multiple Locations | IT Systems Specialist | Infrastructure Support Lead | 2003 – 2014

- Managed enterprise-scale server operations, system deployments, and mission-critical infrastructure maintenance.

- Provided Tier-1/Tier-2 system support, workstation configuration, and hardware diagnostics.
- Led multinational teams maintaining continuous system uptime under high-pressure conditions.
- Implemented network security policies, system upgrades, and RBAC/IAM controls.
- Awarded the UN Service Medal and NATO ISAF Medal for excellence in IT and operational reliability.

Education

- Ph.D., Global Affairs, Rutgers University – 2016
- M.Sc., Global Affairs, Rutgers University – 2014

Selected Achievements

- Improved system stability and deployment efficiency at University of Cincinnati-ITAC and Thermo Fisher through automated QA workflows.
- Reduced recurring failures by implementing robust CI/CD and automated validation frameworks.
- Led system redesign initiatives enabling predictive analytics and operational resilience for law-enforcement systems.
- Delivered reliable, mission-critical IT infrastructure supporting UN/NATO operations in global high-risk zones.