

**Mariana Karkoutly, M.A.**

## Academic Career

2021	M.A. in Social and Political Sciences, Humboldt University Berlin
2017	M.A. in Social Work as a Human Rights Profession, Alice-Salomon-Hochschule Berlin
2014	B.A. in Law, Damascus University
2019	Legal training, European Center for Constitutional and Human Rights (ECCHR), Berlin
2019	Legal training, The Center for Justice and Accountability (CJA) in partnership with the Institute for International Criminal Investigations (IICI), Sarajevo

## Professional Background and Academic Positions

Since 2025	Investigation Program Director, Huquqyat Ltd.
Since 2025	Selected and certified to join the Justice Rapid Response (JRR) Roster of professionals available for rapid deployment to support international investigations and accountability mechanisms
Since 2024	Trainer on legal investigations in relation to war crimes and crimes against humanity, Syrian Center for Legal Studies and Research
Since 2023	PhD candidate and researcher in the MeDiMi project “Human Rights Crimes, Norm Entrepreneurs, and the Implementation of the Principle of Universal Jurisdiction in Germany” (Principal Investigator: Prof. Dr. Susanne Buckley-Zistel), Center for Conflict Studies, University of Marburg
Since 2023	Trainer on legal investigations in relation to war crimes and crimes against humanity, Lawyers for Justice in Libya, United Kingdom
Since 2023	Author and researcher, Ceasefire Centre for Civilian Rights, United Kingdom
2023	Trainer on documenting witness testimonies in research practices, Goldsmiths University, London
Since 2022	Legal investigator, Huquqyat, Berlin
2022	Legal investigator, Syrian Center for Legal Studies and Research, Berlin
2020–2022	Legal investigator, Center for Justice and Accountability
2018–2022	Board member and co-founder, Gemeinsamer Horizont e.V., Berlin
2019–2021	Project manager, Adopt A Revolution, Berlin
2016–2019	Project manager, StadtRand gGmbH, Berlin

## Academic Activities

- Board member at GEM (Guardians of Equality Movement), Canada
- Chair of BoD Huquqyat, United Kingdom
- Speaker at the UN Security Council Open Debate on Sexual Violence in Conflict (13 April 2022)
- Speaker at various events discussing topics of “justice and accountability” related to Syria

## Awards and Prizes

2019	Third prizewinner with El Salem, Humboldt University – Berlin Bosphorus Initiative “Bosphorus Prize”
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## Publications

- (2023) Aktenzeichen 1St 9/19. Syrisches Rechtsempfinden versus deutsches Gerichtsverfahren [Case Number 1 St 9/19. Syrians’ Perceptions of Justice vs. German Legal Procedure], in: Kaleck, Wolfgang/Kroker, Patrick (ed.) Syrische Staatsfolter vor Gericht [Syrian State Torture on Trial], Bonn: Bundeszentrale für politische Bildung, 39–54 [31–44].
- (2023) Kneel or Starve. The Use of Siege and Starvation as a Method of Warfare in South Damascus, Huquqyat and SCLSR, <https://sl-center.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/08/Kneel-or-starve-3.pdf> (with Leila Sibai).
- (2021) Selbsthilfe und Flucht. Eine Handreichung zum Aufbau von Selbsthilfegruppen für Menschen mit Fluchterfahrung [Self-help and Flight. Handbook on Establishing Self-help Groups for People with Refugee Experience], Berlin: StadtRand, <https://www.stadtrand-berlin.de/user-files/pdf/LouLou-Broschuere-web.pdf> (ed. with Peter Zweigler, Sandy Albhari, and Birgit Sowade).
- (2019) EU-Turkey Relations. Turkish Membership in the EU at Arm’s Length, Humboldt University – Berlin Bosphorus Initiative, <https://www.bbi-de.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/01/KarkoutlySalem-final.pdf> (with El Salem).