



# Valentin Mahou-Hekinian

## Humanitarian worker

**Key words:** Public Health - Human Right - Academic Research - General coordination and management - Humanitarian- Emergency - Harm Reduction - Consultancy

E-mail: [valmahou@hotmail.com](mailto:valmahou@hotmail.com)

Age: 32 years old

Tel: France +33(0) 6 70 77 96 05

### Current position:

General Coordinator- Iraq- Médecins du Monde

**Working language:** English – French

## Qualifications

**2019 - 2024 PhD: Human Right, Society and Multilevel Governance- *Padova University- Western Sydney University***

Thesis: Queering Humanitarian Crises: experience of sexual and gender minorities during war and industrial disasters amid the COVID-19 Pandemic: cases of Armenia and Lebanon. *Not defended*

**2013 – 2015 Master of Geography DYNARISK: Environmental dynamics, natural hazards and risk – *University of Paris 1 Panthéon-Sorbonne***

Environment, climate change, natural disaster management - **completed with high honours**

**2010 – 2013 Bachelor's degree of Geography and urban planning – *University of Paris 1 Panthéon-Sorbonne***

Social geography, physical geography, territory planning

## Professional Experience

### Development, cooperation and humanitarian

**2024- now**

**General Coordinator (Head of Mission) – Iraq (Baghdad)– *Médecins du Monde-France***

- Overall running activities of both Federal Iraq and Kurdistan: strategy, representation, advocacy, security, fundraising, programs management, reporting, finance and human resources.

Donors: GFFO, Core funds. Budget: 600k EUR. Staff supervised: 15

- Program implementation in Harm Reduction for amphetamine type stimulant drug users - Mental health and social work.

**2022- 2024**

**Regional Coordinator (Head of Mission) – South Caucasus (Tbilisi/Yerevan) – *Médecins du Monde-France***

- Overall management of the mission in both Armenia and Georgia: strategy, representation, advocacy, security, fundraising, programs management, reporting, finance and human resources.

- Donors: UNITAID, CDCS, ECHO, StartFund and core funds. Budget: 2,5 Millions EUR. Staff supervised: 42

- Long term program implementation: Harm Reduction for people who inject drugs (HIV, HCV), LGBTQ+ (ChemSex), Young people who use drug.

- Emergency program on Mental Health/MHPSS with displaced population in Armenia

**2021**

**Field Coordinator (Head of Representation Office) – Armenia (Yerevan) – *Médecins du Monde-France***

- Overall running activities of the local office: strategy, representation, advocacy, security, fundraising, programs management, reporting, finance and human resources.

Donors: EJAF, StartFund and Core funds. Budget: 400k EUR. Staff supervised: 3

- Program implementation in reduction of HIV/HCV among PWID (Harm Reduction), Emergency preparedness in MHPSS.

**2020-2021**

**Media fixer/coordinator in conflict zones (2020 Karabakh war) - Nagorno Karabakh (Stepanakert)– *Radio France International, Le Figaro, France 24 TV, Liberation***

- Security management: coordination of high risk missions (frontline, hospitals, shelled areas, exfiltration)
- Overall management: transport, press passes, homologations, interviews, translation and geopolitical re-contextualization

- 2016- 2017**      **International Cooperation Project Manager and Consultant (Tbilisi) - *French Embassies in the South Caucasus (Armenia, Georgia)***  
 In the field of natural hazard management: EU programs (Black Sea Basin, TAIEX,Dg Echo)
- Organization of international conference about climate change, natural disasters management and volunteering in the South Caucasus
  - Creation of an early warning system efficient in case of flood in Georgia
- 2015**      **Disaster Risk Reduction intern (Yerevan) – *French Embassy in Armenia***  
 In collaboration with the French University in Armenia (UFAR), the Armenian Ministry of Emergency Situations and the French Institute of Anatolian Studies (IFEA)
- National, international and non-governmental coordination and interactions in the crisis management process in case of natural disaster in Armenia.

### **Academic Research**

- 2020-2021**      **Researcher (Yerevan, Beirut)- *University of Padova, University St Joseph of Beirut***
- In my PhD research context:
- Ethnographic and qualitative Queer methods, intersectionality and identities , access to fundamental Human Rights for sexual and gender minorities impacted by the blast and the economic crisis in Beirut and the war in Armenia in 2020 both amid COVID-19 pandemic.
- 2018**      **Researcher (Yerevan)- *Acopian Center for the Environment, Center for Responsible Mining -American University of Armenia***
- Environmental issues due to mining activity (water pollution, soil erosion)
  - Landscape evolution (climate change)
  - Natural hazards and resilience in Armenia
- 2014**      **Intern-researcher in Physical Geography (Bassar,Togo) – *CNRS, ANR SIDERENT project***
- In my Master's research project context:
- Environmental impacts of the iron activity in Bassar Country (North Togo) between the 13th and the 19th century
  - Geo-archeology, Botany, Geomorphology, Ethnology, Lab analysis
- 2012**      **Volunteer (Koh-Rong, Cambodia) - *Marine Conservation Cambodia***
- Marine conservation and local development program, marine fauna and flora inventory

### **Education and teaching**

- 2018**      **Guest lecturer (Yerevan) - *American University of Armenia***
- Disaster class (undergraduate)
- 2017- 2018**      **Teacher in Earth Science, Technology and Geography (Yerevan) - *French School in Armenia***
- Junior and high school levels
- 2013 – 2014**      **Tutor (Paris) - *Université Paris I Panthéon-Sorbonne***
- Tutoring sessions for Geography students

### **Languages**

French: mother tongue  
 English: fluent (C1)  
 Armenian:  
 conversational  
 Spanish: moderate

### **Mobility**

- International

### **Certificates**

- First Aid certificate
- Computer and information technology (Pack Office)

### **Activities/ Hobbies**

- Theater
- Diving: level 2 PADI
- Traveling

### **Licenses**

- Driving license

### **Trainings**

- humanitarian health programs implementation– BioForce-Paris
- Team management– BioForce-Paris
- European and International Human Rights Standards in Disaster Settings – Sant’Anna