

Part A. PERSONAL INFORMATION

			CV date	16/12/2025
First name	Luana			
Family name	Menezes			
Gender (*)	Woman	Birth date (dd/mm/yyyy)	16/08/1998	
Social Security, Passport, ID number	Z1111601Q			
e-mail	luana.menezes@uam.es	URL Web		
Open Researcher and Contributor ID (ORCID) (**)	https://orcid.org/0000-0002-3710-4909			

(*) Mandatory (**) If you have

A.1. Current position*

University/Institution	Predoctoral Researcher
Department/Center	Universidad Autónoma de Madrid
Advisor	Ana I. Planet Conteras

(*) If you have any

A.2. Education

Degree/Master	University	Year
Master's Degree in Contemporary Arab and Islamic Studies	Universidad Autónoma de Madrid	2024
Bachelor's Degree in International Relations	Universidade Federal de Pelotas	2023

Part B.

CV SUMMARY

PhD candidate in Human Sciences (Geography, Anthropology, and African and Asian Studies) at the Autonomous University of Madrid (UAM), where I previously obtained a Master's degree in Contemporary Arab and Islamic Studies. My academic background also includes a Bachelor's degree in International Relations from the Federal University of Pelotas (UFPel), Brazil. Language Skills: Native Portuguese (C2); English (C2), with experience teaching English since 2017; Spanish (C1); Arabic (A1).

My main academic interests focus on the study of the Arab world, diasporas, and decentralized international cooperation, with particular attention to identity, cultural, and political dynamics in transnational contexts. My current doctoral research analyses the Arab presence in Brazil, focusing on the transnational influence of the Lebanese and Moroccan diasporas on the formulation of Brazilian foreign policy, combining approaches from International Relations, Anthropology, and regional studies.

I completed a curricular professional internship at Casa Árabe (Madrid) in July 2024, a leading institution in cultural diplomacy and Arab world studies, where I gained experience in research, cultural outreach, and analysis of cultural policies. Additionally, I have participated as a collaborator in various research and university extension projects, including "Sister Cities of Pelotas" and "International Relations at UFPel: Its 10 Years and New Perspectives".

In the field of academic management and university internationalisation, I worked as an intern at the International Relations Office of UFPel (CRInter) in 2022 and served as President of the International Relations Student Association in the same year. Additionally, I held the position of Academic Secretary of the extension project Pelotas MUN (Model United Nations) in its 2020 edition and was an alumna of AIESEC, where I served as Vice President for Volunteer Exchange Programs for organisations and international participants.

I have teaching experience as a teaching assistant in undergraduate courses, including International Relations Theory II, History of Brazilian Foreign Policy II, and Applied Methodology for International Relations. I have participated in multiple academic presentations, developing strong skills in scientific communication and the presentation of research results. Relevant skills acquired for the completion of a doctoral thesis include



qualitative research, documentary and bibliographic analysis, work with primary and secondary sources, academic writing, organisation of scientific and outreach activities, as well as strong intercultural and multilingual competencies.

B.1. Brief summary of the Undergraduate Thesis (or equivalent) and score obtained

The objective of the thesis "*Cidades-irmãs: O Caso Rio-Beirute como Instrumento para Promoção da Identidade Cultural Libanesa no Brasil*" was to analyze the case of the sister cities Rio-Beirut as an instrument for promoting Lebanese cultural identity in Brazil. The study examined the formalization of cooperative relations between municipalities in different countries from the perspective of decentralized international relations and explored how these actions contribute to the preservation and dissemination of the values, customs, beliefs, and practices of the Lebanese community. Using a qualitative approach and content analysis of primary and secondary sources, the research investigated the extent to which initiatives developed under the sister cities agreement foster cultural identity, concluding that they have the potential to promote traditions, arts, literature, and cuisine.

Grade obtained: 10.0.

B.2. Brief summary of the Master's Thesis and score obtained

The thesis "*Lebanese Identities: Challenges of the Sense of Belonging and Differences with the Lebanese Community in the Diaspora*" examines the construction of Lebanese identity in the diaspora and compares the sense of belonging between emigrant communities and the population residing in Lebanon. Using a postcolonial perspective and a qualitative methodology based on content analysis of primary and secondary sources, the study identifies key differences and similarities in national identity. The findings highlight processes of identity hybridization, the importance of everyday culture (such as food and music), memory and language in identity construction, as well as the reproduction of identity patterns in the diaspora, particularly regarding the influence of religious communities.

Grade obtained: 7.5.

Part C. RELEVANT SCIENTIFIC RESULTS (if you have any)

C.1. Publications. Title, authors, year, journal or book, indicating your personal contribution

- Identidades libanesas: los desafíos del sentimiento de pertenencia y las diferencias con la comunidad libanesa en la diáspora en Brasil. **Menezes, L.** (2025). EXILIUM, Revista De Estudos da Contemporaneidade, 6(10), 121-138. <https://doi.org/10.34024/cwekq956>.
- Cidades-irmãs: O Caso Rio-Beirute como instrumento para promoção da Identidade Cultural Libanesa no Brasil. **Schimanski, S., Menezes, L.** (2025). RELACult - Revista Latino-Americana De Estudos Em Cultura E Sociedade, 10(2). <https://doi.org/10.23899/relacult.v10i2.2386>.
- El middle ground como un desafío a la sabiduría convencional del orden internacional. **Menezes, L.** (2024). Malala, Revista Internacional de Estudos Sobre o Oriente Médio e Mundo Muçulmano, 12(15), 197-202. <https://doi.org/10.11606/issn.2446-5240.malala.2024.224111>.
- Decentralized International Cooperation: Opportunities and Challenges for Municipalities. **Schimanski, S., Menezes, L., & Schmutz, N. P.** (2024). Revista cadernos de aulas do LEA, 13 (dez. 2024), 1–18. <https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.14522950>.
- La Guerra de Ucrania: ¿una oportunidad de autonomía política en el Norte de África y Oriente Medio?. Reseña de David Hernández Martínez y Alfonso Casani Herranz (eds.) (2023): El impacto de la Guerra de Ucrania en el Norte de África y Oriente Medio. **Menezes, L.** (2024). Revista de Estudios Internacionales Mediterráneos, 36, 372-375. <https://doi.org/10.15366/reim2024.36>.



- Cidades-irmãs: ações desenvolvidas sob o amparo da irmandade internacional entre os municípios de Pelotas-Suzu. **Schimanski, S., Menezes, L., et al.** (2022) Revista ELO – Diálogos em Extensão, 11. <https://doi.org/10.21284/elo.v11i.14663>.
- Research on Graduates of International Relations at UFPel: A Comparative Perspective with Other Studies in Brazil. Schimanski, S., Fernandes, F. D. M., **Menezes, L.**, & Lubke, M. D. (2021). INPEAU/UFSC. ISBN: 978-85-68618-08-0.
- Poster: Green Politics in International Relations: An Overview of Papers Published in the Proceedings of the National Meetings of the Brazilian Association of International Relations (2011–2021). Abreu, D., **Menezes, L.**, et al. (2022). In: Proceedings of the Undergraduate and Postgraduate Seminar on International Relations, São Paulo. ISBN: 978-65-5941-910-4.

C.2. Conferences and meetings, indicating your type of participation (invited speaker, oral presentation, poster, etc.)

- **27th Meeting of the Forum for Research on the Arab and Muslim World (FIMAM)** (Faculty of Geography and History, University of Valencia, Spain). Oral presentation of the paper “*The Influence of the Diaspora on Brazilian Foreign Policy toward the MENA Region: Preliminary Evidence*”.
- **1st Meeting of Arab Studies in Dialogue** (University of São Paulo – USP, Brazil). Oral presentation of the paper “*The Influence of the Diaspora on Brazilian Foreign Policy toward the MENA Region*”, in the panel “*New Perspectives on the Diaspora*”.
- **International Seminar: The Arab-Islamic World – Academic Perspectives, Research Lines and New Trends** (University of Seville, Spain). Oral presentation of the paper “*The Construction of Identities in the Arab-Islamic World and Its Diaspora*”.
- **Research Seminar: Between the Domestic and the International: Ongoing Research on North Africa and the Middle East** (University of Castilla-La Mancha, Spain). Oral presentation of the paper “*The Influence of the Diaspora on Brazilian Foreign Policy toward the MENA Region*”.
- **6th International Conference Brazil in Cultural Networks: Palestinities** (State University of Bahia – UNEB, Brazil). Panel: *Representations of Muslim Women in the West and Arabic Literature by Female Authors*. Oral presentation: “*Who Are the Brimas? Arab Diaspora Women in Brazil and Their Identities*”.
- **Postgraduate Seminar of the Brazilian Association of International Relations (ABRI)** (Brazil). Poster presentation: “*Green Politics in International Relations: An Overview of Papers Published in the Proceedings of the National Meetings of the Brazilian Association of International Relations (2011–2021)*”. ISBN: 978-65-5941-910-4.
- **20th International Colloquium on University Management (CIGU 2021)** (Federal University of Santa Catarina – UFSC, Florianópolis, Brazil). Presentation of the paper “*Research on Graduates of International Relations at UFPel: A Comparative Perspective with Other Studies in Brazil*”.
- **6th Undergraduate Teaching Conference**, 6th Integrated Week of Innovation, Teaching, Research and Extension (Federal University of Pelotas – UFPel, Brazil). Presentation of the paper “*Ten Years of the International Relations Program at UFPel: A Preliminary Report on the Search for the Profile of Its Graduates*”.
- **31st Scientific Initiation Conference**, 8th Integrated Week of Innovation, Teaching, Research and Extension (UFPel, Brazil). Presentation of the paper “*Empirical Evidence of Sister-City Relations: The Student Exchange between Suzu and Pelotas (1992)*”.
- **30th Scientific Initiation Conference**, 7th Integrated Week of Innovation, Teaching, Research and Extension (UFPel, Brazil). Presentation of the paper “*International Relations Graduates: Insertion into the Labor Market*”.
- **9th Extension and Culture Conference**, 8th Integrated Week of Innovation, Teaching, Research and Extension (UFPel, Brazil). Presentation of the paper “*The International Relations Program and Internship Agencies: A Necessary Approximation*”.



- **8th Undergraduate Teaching Conference**, 8th Integrated Week of Innovation, Teaching, Research and Extension (UFPel, Brazil). Presentation of the paper “*Students’ Perceptions of the Teaching of African and Afro-Brazilian History and Culture: An Exploratory Study of the HPEB I Teaching Assistantship*”.
- **7th Academic Week of International Relations (SARI)** (UFPel, Brazil). Paper presentation: “*Expanding Agendas and Actors in Contemporary International Relations*”.

C.3. Research projects and research lines, indicating your personal contribution

- **Member of the Board of Directors, Forum for Research on the Arab and Muslim World (FIMAM)**, since 2025: Academic network founded in 1995, bringing together over 200 researchers and promoting knowledge exchange and dissemination of research on the Arab and Muslim world from a multidisciplinary perspective.
- **Programa Amigo Universitário (UFPel)**: Outreach project aimed at welcoming, supporting, and promoting intercultural integration of international students at the university and in the local community. Actively involved in organizing academic and cultural integration activities, supporting international students, and fostering intercultural dialogue.
- **Sister Cities of Pelotas (Cidades-Irmãs de Pelotas, UFPel)**: Initiative focused on promoting and analyzing Pelotas’ international sister-city agreements with Suzu (Japan), Aveiro (Portugal), and Colonia del Sacramento (Uruguay) within the framework of decentralized international cooperation and paradiplomacy. Contributions included research, data systematization, analysis of subnational international relations, and dissemination of project results.
- **International Relations at UFPel: Its 10 Years and New Perspectives (UFPel)**: Outreach project dedicated to analyzing the International Relations undergraduate program at UFPel, focusing on graduate profiles and academic innovation. Contributions included data collection and analysis, report preparation, and presentation of findings at academic events.
- **ConjuntuRI – International Affairs Analysis (UFPel)**: Outreach project focused on critical reflection on contemporary international issues through public lectures and school talk series. Contributions included thematic research, organization of activities, and preparation of academic dissemination materials.
- **Pelotas Model United Nations (PelotasMUN, UFPel)** – Academic simulation of United Nations bodies and committees, aimed at debating contemporary international issues and learning about the UN system. Roles included academic organization, methodological support for participants, and coordination of training activities.

C.4. Contracts, patents and other technological results, indicating your personal contribution

- **Predoctoral Contract (Predoctoral Researcher in Training)** – Autonomous University of Madrid, linked to the project “*The Historical Legacies of the Maghreb in Dispute: Discourse, Nation, and Citizenship (LEHISMAG)*.”

C.5. Other merits

- **Honors (Matrícula de Honor)** in the course Ideologies and Cultural Expressions, Master’s in Contemporary Arab and Islamic Studies, Universidad Autónoma de Madrid (UAM), 2024.
- **Honors (Matrícula de Honor)** in the Bachelor’s Thesis (TFG) “*Sister Cities: The Rio-Beirut Case as an Instrument for Promoting Lebanese Cultural Identity in Brazil*”, Federal University of Pelotas (UFPel), Brazil, 2023.
- The work “**Empirical Evidence of Sister-City Relations: The Student Exchange between Suzu and Pelotas (1992)**” was selected as a Highlighted Work in its session at the



31st Scientific Initiation Conference, during the 8th Integrated Week of Innovation, Teaching, Research and Extension (UFPEl), Brazil, 2022.