

Maziar Kianimoghadam Jouneghani

Last Updated: May 2026

NLP / Computational Linguistics Researcher | Turin, Italy

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Research Interests

Multilingual and Cross-Cultural NLP, Computational Social Science (CSS), Information Disorder, Human-in-the-Loop AI (HITL), Explainable AI (XAI), In-Context Learning (ICL).

Education

University of Turin

Turin, Italy | Oct 2023 – Present (Expected: Jul 2026)

Master's Degree in Language Technologies and Digital Humanities

Weighted average: 27.93/30

Thesis: “Culturally Adaptive Explainable LLM Assessment for Multilingual Information Disorder”

Supervisors: Prof. Viviana Patti (Supervisor), Dr. Marco Antonio Stranisci (Co-supervisor)

Research Summary: Extended a multilingual baseline study on the InDor corpus to investigate where current LLMs exhibit cultural blindness and produce culturally misaligned outputs in information disorder assessment. Designed and tested a retrieval-based In-Context Learning framework to connect model reasoning to community-annotated exemplars. These exemplars are dynamically retrieved through semantic similarity at inference time. Evaluated across Persian and Italian subsets using a combination of automated metrics and native-speaker human evaluation.

Shahrekord University

Shahrekord, Iran | Sep 2013 – Feb 2017

Bachelor's Degree in English Language Translation

Academic Focus: Linguistics and Translation Studies.

Publications

Published

- Gemelli, S., et al. “Beyond Fake News Detection: A Community-Based Study of the Multicultural Nature of Information Disorder.” *Proceedings of the Fifteenth Language Resources and Evaluation Conference (LREC 2026)*. Co-author: **Jouneghani, M. K.** [Link]
- Jouneghani, M. K.** “Culturally Adaptive Explainable LLM Assessment for Multilingual Information Disorder: A Human-in-the-Loop Approach.” Presented at the *Information Disorder Workshop (InDor26) at LREC 2026*, Palma de Mallorca, Spain (Unarchival). [arXiv]

Accepted / Forthcoming

- Jouneghani, M. K.** “MKJ at SemEval-2026 Task 9: A Comparative Study of Generalist, Specialist, and Ensemble Strategies for Multilingual Polarization.” To appear in *Proceedings of the 20th International Workshop on Semantic Evaluation (SemEval-2026)*. **System ranked 2nd in the Farsi (Persian) and Burmese language tracks of Subtask 1.** [arXiv]

Working Papers

- Piva, H. C., Ashraf, S., **Jouneghani, M. K.**, Longo, A., Damiano, R., Flek, L., Stranisci, M. A. “Conspiracy Frame: A Semiotically-Driven Approach for Conspiracy Theories Detection.” Preprint available on [arXiv].

Academic and Research Experience

aequa-tech, srl

Turin, Italy

NLP Research Intern

Feb 2025 – Jul 2025

- Worked as part of a 12-member international team on the multilingual InDor corpus, handling data collection, annotation, and baseline model benchmarking.

University of Turin (Department of Psychology)

Turin, Italy

Research Assistant, BIP (Brain Plasticity and Behavior Changes) Group

Sep 2024 – Jun 2025

- Assisted with human-subject experimental sessions across two cognitive studies: participant recruitment, hardware setup, data collection, and preliminary processing of physiological signals (EEG, ECG, EDA, HRV).

Technical and Research Skills

Programming and Tools: Python (data preprocessing, NLP pipeline scripting, evaluation scripts, research prototyping), Hugging Face Transformers, sentence-transformers, scikit-learn, NumPy, pandas, HTML.

NLP Methodologies: Fine-tuning encoder models (e.g., XLM-RoBERTa, mDeBERTa), ensemble strategies, In-Context Learning (ICL), retrieval-based frameworks, Human-in-the-Loop (HITL) workflows, cross-lingual augmentation, model evaluation (LLMs and classifiers).

Data and Linguistic Research: Multilingual dataset curation, annotation workflows, and linguistic analysis.

Languages: English (C2), Persian (Native), Qashqai Turkish (Native), Italian (A2).

Professional Experience

KiTalent

Turin, Italy

SEO and Digital Marketing Specialist

May 2025 – Aug 2025

- Translated SEO and marketing requirements into PRDs and PBIs in Cursor, keeping development tasks clear and prioritized without constant back-and-forth between teams.
- Led a website migration without losing search rankings, and ran full on-page and technical SEO audits.

Mana Immigration Services

Toronto, Canada (Remote)

SEO Specialist and Content Strategist

Nov 2022 – Apr 2023

- Restructured the site and set up a large-scale URL redirect plan to fix content overlap, clean up the information architecture and make the site easier to navigate.

Parsicanada Immigration Services

Vancouver, Canada (Remote)

Content and SEO Specialist

May 2020 – Apr 2022

- Worked between the marketing and legal teams to write and improve over 100 content pages, balancing compliance requirements with organic search performance.
- Fixed a range of critical technical issues and shifted the site toward a content-first approach.

References

Prof. Viviana Patti

Full Professor, Department of Computer Science, University of Turin, Turin, Italy

Prof. Valerio Basile

Associate Professor, Department of Computer Science, University of Turin, Turin, Italy

Dr. Marco Antonio Stranisci

Postdoctoral Researcher, Department of Computer Science, University of Turin, Turin, Italy