



Melisa Valenzuela

Multimedia Journalist & Communications Producer

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SUMMARY

Multimedia producer and storyteller who transforms complex human rights and development issues into clear, engaging explainers and people-centered narratives. Originally from Ecuador and based between Türkiye and Jerusalem, I have worked on the UN's Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) Campaign and with teams at the UN Human Rights Office (OHCHR) and CARE International, producing stories that amplify women's leadership, climate resilience, and social justice. I combine editorial judgment, creativity, and digital fluency to craft explainers, short documentaries, and social-first stories for diverse global audiences.

EXPERIENCE

Senior Video Producer

TRT Español · Digital news outlet

01/2024 – Present

Istanbul, Turkey

Joined TRT Español as its first team member, helping launch the channel and shape its identity — within a year it became the third most influential of TRT World's 13 digital platforms. Led the full production process (ideas, scripts, editing, final delivery) while managing a small team, focusing on sharp explainers and digital-first news videos that reached 698K followers on Facebook, 242K on Instagram, and 235K on TikTok in eight months.

Selected coverage: COP31 · 2026 FIFA World Cup Mexico.

Long-Term Agreement — Roster Consultant

UNICEF · UN agency

2024 – Present

Remote, from Amman, Jordan

Selected as part of UNICEF's Long-Term Agreement (LTA) Roster to support digital media production and visual storytelling for field offices and campaigns across regions.

Video Producer & Communications Consultant

UN SDG Action Campaign

2022 – 2024

Bonn, Germany (remote)

Developed a two-year video strategy with the SDG Action Campaign communications office in Bonn, aligned with campaign goals. Crafted and edited advocacy videos for the Flip the Script campaign and repurposed existing materials for cohesive storytelling across digital channels and social media.

Video Producer

The Associated Press · News agency

01/2020 – 10/2022

Mexico City, Mexico

Delivered accurate, impactful English-language scripts under tight deadlines for a global audience. Produced video stories grounded in field reporting; researched and pitched stories across politics, the environment, and culture; led interviews and shaped coverage from idea to final script; and coordinated a network of freelancers across Latin America.

Selected coverage: Guatemalan lives upturned by failed U.S. migration policies (supported by the International Women's Media Foundation) · Sexual violence victims in Mexico seek justice · Mexico flies 81 Ukrainian refugees out of Romania.

Founder & Producer

Amacuro Films · Production company

03/2018 – 01/2020

Latin America

Founded a production company telling human-centered stories for international media — handling pitching, field reporting, shooting, scripting, editing, and multi-client delivery across Latin America and beyond.

Selected work: Trading Guns for Footballs (Journeyman Pictures) · Venezuela: The Price of Piracy (Pearl Video) · Second Shift: Living with Hyperinflation in Venezuela (The Telegraph) · Venezuela's Gold Rush (The New Humanitarian) · Left Waiting: Africans Caught in US–Mexico Migration Limbo (The New Humanitarian).

Freelance Stringer — *Ruptly · News agency*

01/2016 – 01/2020 · Ecuador

Reported from the ground during fast-moving events, gathering verified information, interviews, and footage in real time for international outlets.

Video Producer

teleSUR English · Digital & broadcast news outlet

06/2014 – 04/2018

Ecuador & Venezuela

Directed live streams on Facebook and Instagram, produced news packages and translated content for daily broadcasts, and covered elections, social conflicts, and cultural stories across Latin America and the Caribbean.

Intern News Video Producer — *Telemadrid*

07/2012 – 12/2012 · Madrid, Spain

Organized interviews for cultural programs, managed media accreditations and live broadcasts, and handled ENG equipment and satellite logistics.

Communications Intern — *CARE International*

Latin America

Contributed to the communications strategy for presenting Latin America's local drinking-water operators to international donors.

Communications Intern — *OHCHR (UN Human Rights Office)*

11/2010 – 07/2011 · Quito, Ecuador

Organized an indigenous entrepreneurship fair and built the agency's website. Developed communication and marketing strategies, managed media outreach, coordinated press agendas and interviews, and edited institutional publications.

EDUCATION

Bachelor's Degree, Human Sciences & Education

Social Communication for Development · Universidad
Politécnica Salesiana · 01/2005 – 12/2009

Master's Degree, Film Production

Complutense University of Madrid · 01/2012 – 12/2012

SKILLS

Adobe Premiere

After Effects

Photoshop

Illustrator

Adobe Audition

Avid

Final Cut

Canon/Sony DSLR & ENG cameras

iNews / ENPS

OBS Studio

GV Stratus

Bambuser

FTP, LiveU & BGAN operations

AI-assisted editing, subtitling & localization workflows

CERTIFICATIONS

Digital Marketing Strategy: Emerging
Media and AI — *Univ. of Illinois*

Marketing in a Digital World — *Univ. of
Illinois*

Digital Marketing Implementation — *Univ.
of Illinois*

LANGUAGES

Spanish — Native

English — Proficient

Italian — Advanced

Arabic — Basic

The Digital Marketing Revolution — *Univ. of Illinois*

Creating a Communications Strategy — *LinkedIn Learning*

After Effects 2023 Essential Training — *LinkedIn Learning*

Digital Marketing Analytics in Theory — *Univ. of Illinois*

Google Ads Essential Training — *LinkedIn Learning*

20 Rules for Visual Communication — *LinkedIn Learning*

Podcast Marketing Essential Training — *LinkedIn Learning*