



Aline SARA is Lebanese, born and raised in New York, where she completed her Baccalaureat at the Lycée Français. After graduating in psychology from Tufts University, she moved to Beirut and worked with Human Rights Watch before transitioning into journalism, focusing on human and women’s rights and wider socio-political affairs before, during and after the Arab Uprisings. In 2012, Aline returned to New York for her Masters in International Affairs at Columbia University. She then worked as an international election observer in Tunisia, Guyana and Haiti while continuing to write as a freelancer. In 2015, Aline launched NaTakallam, a social venture that connects Arabic learners around the world with displaced Syrians for language practice via Skype. In addition to providing displaced people with a viable and rewarding livelihood opportunity, NaTakallam helps foster intercultural exchange and raise awareness around the refugee crisis and the daily challenges of fleeing conflict zones. Today, it has grown to include other languages and refugee communities for online as part of their language tutoring option. It also offers translation services delivered by displaced communities.