

ZEINAH ABDELSALAM

Washington, D.C. | +1 (304) 516-7901 | zma26@georgetown.edu | [LinkedIn](#) | [Portfolio](#)

EDUCATION

GEORGETOWN UNIVERSITY, Walsh School of Foreign Service Washington, D.C.
M.S. in Foreign Service; Science & Technology in International Affairs, STEM-designated (GPA: 3.9) Expected May 2027
Diplomatic Studies | African Studies | SFS Energy Club | NCAC-USAAE | SFS Committee on China | Georgetown AIA

- Relevant Coursework:
 - *Energy Diplomacy* (Fall '25): Geopolitics of energy and minerals; authored a policy memo for Secretary Chris Wright analyzing the IMO Net-Zero Framework and U.S. strategic positioning; OPEC, IEA, G7 simulations.
 - *The Electric Grid* (Spring '26): Technical and regulatory challenges of grid modernization; FERC simulation.

WEST VIRGINIA WESLEYAN COLLEGE Buckhannon, W.V.
B.S. in Economics & Political Science, Summa Cum Laude (GPA: 4.0) May 2025

EXPERIENCE

AQUIA GROUP Washington, D.C.
Energy, Tech, & Trade Policy Associate Sep 2025-Present

- Monitor and synthesize daily developments across U.S. and international energy, climate, and trade policy, producing a weekly digest that translates a fast-moving landscape into analysis decision-makers can act on.
- Draft policy briefs and track regulatory developments at the intersection of energy, technology, and AI, with a focus on identifying concrete implications beneath headline-level noise.
- Engage directly with high-profile energy and tech clients and Hill staff through coalition-building and outreach initiatives, deepening understanding of how stakeholder interests shape energy policy in practice.

GEORGETOWN SCHOOL OF FOREIGN SERVICE Washington, D.C.
MSFS Communications & Events Assistant Aug 2025-Present

- Create and manage digital content for MSFS social media, website, newsletter, and fundraising campaigns, including writing impact stories, designing graphics, and maintaining webpages.
- Support the planning and execution of major School of Foreign Service events by managing logistics across venues, speaker outreach, scheduling, catering, and A/V operations.

ORION STRATEGIES

Washington, D.C. Office May 2025-Aug 2025

- Produced 10+ concise, insight-rich reports for clients and internal staff, synthesizing information from high-level conferences, federal agency events, and congressional hearings on energy, environmental, and AI/tech policy.
- Maintained up-to-date profiles and schedules of key legislators and committees in the 119th Congress through direct coordination with congressional offices, enhancing lobbying strategies for clients.

Buckhannon, W.V. Office

May 2024-Aug 2024

- Authored comprehensive "Lay of the Land" memos (100+ pages each) for energy and health clients, mapping regulatory developments, stakeholder networks, and market landscapes.
- Co-authored client- and public-facing deliverables, including op-eds, daily newsletter, stakeholder briefs, and social media.
- Streamlined and updated stakeholder engagement DMA databases in MS Excel, improving accuracy, accessibility, and strategic outreach capacity.

SELECT WRITING

- "The Mediterranean's Energy Moment: A Case for Regional Action" – *Trends Research & Advisory*, forthcoming publication June 2026; includes original correspondence with Geoffrey Pyatt, former U.S. Ambassador to Greece and former Assistant Secretary of State for Energy Resources
- "The Adversary's Forecast: How Extreme Weather and AI-Enabled Cyber Capabilities Are Creating the Perfect Storm to Attack the Power Grid" – *Science & Politics*, forthcoming publication June 2026

SELECT PROJECTS

- "The Age of Climate Pragmatism" – policy paper arguing the world faces energy addition, not transition; analyzed COP30 outcomes, U.S.-China rivalry, and energy trilemma dynamics.
- "Critical Minerals as the Organizing Logic of Contemporary Globalization" – research paper on China's midstream dominance, Africa/Latin America structural asymmetry, and U.S. industrial policy response.
- Tabletop exercises simulating adversarial threats to U.S. critical infrastructure, including the electric grid subsector.

LANGUAGES & ADDITIONAL SKILLS

Languages: English (Native – C2), Arabic (Native – C2), French (Beginner – A1)

Computer Skills: SPSS, Stata, MS Office Suite (data analysis, visualization), Google Apps, Canva, iMovie, Wix, Mailchimp