AZADEH MOMENI August 3, 2022
350 William Dunn Cres. Newmarket, ON, Canada
613-720 0734. Azadeh.momeni@carleton.ca.

Dear Sir/Madam,

It is with great interest that I am writing to apply for the Elahé Omidyar Mir-Djalali Postdoctoral Fellowship in Iranian Studies at the University of Toronto for 2022-2023. I am a recent Ph.D. graduate in Political Science from Carleton University, Ottawa, Canada. My areas of expertise include, but are not limited to, Iranian Studies, International Relations, Foreign Policy Analysis, and Quantitative Methods.

I have about eight years’ experience in academia as a lecturer and teaching assistant. I also have extensive experience collaborating with UN agencies including UNICEF and UNODC, as well as NGOs such as Amnesty International and Women Living Under Muslim Laws (WLUML).

My Ph.D. dissertation examined the role of Khatami’s belief system in shaping Iran’s foreign policy from 1997 to 2005. In my research, I briefly explored the intellectual influences of two German philosophers on Khatami’s belief system. Habermas’ category of “communicative action” and Gadamer’s notion of a “fusion of horizons” and its concrete expressions in a “new global solidarity” and “unity in diversity.” For the postdoctoral fellowship, I propose to carry out a comparative study of Gadamer’s and Khatami’s thoughts. I will examine the interplay of three concepts: solidarity, understanding, and the Other, in articulating Gadamer’s hermeneutic philosophy and Khatami’s Dialogue among Civilizations.

My skillsets include language skills (native Persian and fluent English), in-depth knowledge of Iran’s culture and politics, extensive teaching experience, as well as the ability to conduct both qualitative and quantitative research. I believe that these assets would make me a suitable Postdoctoral candidate for the Elahé Omidyar Mir-Djalali Postdoctoral Fellowship in Iranian Studies at the University of Toronto and would allow me to contribute in a meaningful way to its diverse scholarly community.

Thank you for your consideration,

Azadeh Momeni