

Benjamin R. Gilbert

• New York, New York: +1.513.442.8287 • Beirut, Lebanon: +961.70.964.800 • benrgilbert@gmail.com •

Experience – Reporting

EDITOR AND REPORTER

2015-2016

VICE News

- Report on US foreign policy, international affairs, and national security, including the FBI's questionable use of informants to seemingly [entrap](#) terrorism suspects; civilian [casualties](#) due to the US air war against Islamic State; the Democratic National Committee [hack](#) and suspected attempt by Russia to [influence](#) the US presidential election; and 2016 presidential candidates' top-secret intelligence [briefings](#).
- Assign breaking, feature, and enterprise news stories to writers and shepherd articles from assignment to publication, with particular focus on the Middle East, defense, foreign policy, and national security.
- Collaborate with editors, reporters, social media, and multimedia teams to develop multi-platform news coverage for short-form video, graphics, and digital platforms.

MIDDLE EAST CORRESPONDENT

2011-2015

BBC/PRI's The World

- [Covered Syria conflict](#) from March 2011 to 2015 from [Lebanon](#), [Jordan](#) and [Turkey](#).
- One of the first journalists to report on the Syrian government's indiscriminate use of "[barrel bombs](#)" to attack opposition-held areas in 2014 and the civilian exodus from Aleppo to Turkey.
- Detailed effects of [Hezbollah's](#) involvement in the Syria conflict, including impact of retaliatory [attacks](#) targeting Hezbollah-dominated civilian neighborhoods and towns in Lebanon.
- Investigated and reported on Saudi Arabia's [funding](#) of violent Islamist Syrian opposition groups.
- Reported on the 2011 Egyptian uprising from Tahrir Square, and anchored The World's [live](#) rolling coverage of former President Hosni Mubarak's resignation and subsequent military [rule](#) and [elections](#).
- Covered the 2011 uprising in Libya from [Benghazi](#) and [Eastern Libya](#).
- Reported, produced and voiced public radio series on the participation of Islamist political movements in the [Tunisian](#) and [Egyptian](#) political processes.
- Wrote about the impact of Syria's conflict on [minority](#) Christian, Armenian and Druze communities.

LEBANON, IRAQ AND AFGHANISTAN CORRESPONDENT

2009-2011

Global Post

- Reported on the "surge" into Afghanistan, with a focus on [counterinsurgency](#) warfare and [challenges](#) facing NATO and the US-led coalition in [establishing security](#) and [governance](#).
- Covered 2010 Iraqi parliamentary [elections](#) from Baghdad and Kirkuk; analyzed possible [conflict](#) between Kurds and Baghdad-based government over energy resources and security.
- Investigated Lebanon's corrupt [election](#) system and [hashish](#) industry; and Hezbollah's [Bernie Madoff](#).

MIDDLE EAST CORRESPONDENT (FREELANCE)

2005-2010

Christian Science Monitor, US News and World Report, The World, Marketplace, NPR, NBC

- Detailed the 2008 global financial crisis' [effects](#) on the United Arab Emirates' real estate market and economy.
- Reported on the July 2006 Lebanon war and subsequent political turmoil in Lebanon.
- Detailed US military's efforts to train and arm the Iraqi military from 2005-2006, with focus on efforts to establish security and governance in Anbar Province and western Baghdad.
- Covered rise of Iraqi militias, sectarian violence and the beginning of Iraq's civil war. Oversaw coverage of Iraq's first parliamentary elections and Saddam Hussein's trial in 2005-06.

CONTRIBUTING REPORTER, IRAQ PRODUCER, ASSOCIATE PRODUCER 2002-2005
[National Public Radio's Iraq Bureau](#), *All Things Considered*, NHPR
Washington, DC and Iraq

- Member of NPR team that won the 2004 **Alfred I. Dupont-Columbia Award** and 2005 **Peabody Award** for coverage of Iraq war. Reported and produced breaking news coverage, enterprise and feature stories.
- Reported on Congress and executive branch with focus on post-9/11 national security and counterterrorism issues for public radio stations in New Hampshire, Connecticut and Maine.

Experience - Editing

SENIOR EDITOR 2013-2014
[damascusbureau.org](#), *Institute for War and Peace Reporting*
Beirut, Lebanon

- **Trained Syrian and Lebanese journalists** and oversaw editing of "Damascus Bureau" website dedicated to publishing articles sourced from inside Syria about the conflict.

FOREIGN NEWS EDITOR & BEIRUT BUREAU CHIEF 2012
[Al-Monitor.com](#)
Beirut, Lebanon

- **Hired and managed team of editors and reporters.**
- **Commissioned and edited** reportage, opinion and analysis.
- **Identified breaking and developing news** stories and collaborated with editors and reporters to write, edit and publish stories and updates, for example, the [murder](#) of US Ambassador Chris Stevens in Benghazi.
- **Managed social media** and **represented** the organization to universities and think tanks around the region.

MANAGING EDITOR 2009
[Executive Magazine](#)
Beirut, Lebanon

- **Oversaw digital and print editions** of business magazine focused on the Middle East and North Africa.
- **Supervised reporting, writing and editing process** with team of staff editors and reporters. Managed design, layout and photo desks and oversaw publishing process.
- **Developed and delivered training courses on journalism style and ethics** as part of ongoing internal capacity-building efforts.

Language:

Arabic - Intermediate comprehension and speaking of Levantine Arabic and Modern Standard Arabic.

Education / Certifications / Professional Organizations

Awarded **Kathryn Davis Fellowship for Peace** to study Arabic at Middlebury College in summer, 2014.

M.S. Print Journalism, 2002. *Boston University College of Communication*, Boston, Massachusetts.

B.A. Sociology/Anthropology, 1997. *Earlham College*, Richmond, Indiana.

Certified for Hostile Environments and Emergency Combat First Aid by *AKE* and *Centurion Security*

Overseas Press Club & Society of Professional Journalists - Active member