

Call for Participation

**The first Arabic Language Resources and Evaluation (ALRE) Workshop on April 22
Doha, Qatar**

Held in conjunction with the second ArabicSpeech 2020 Meeting on April 20 and 21



The aim of ALRE is to provide an overview of the current challenges, projects and planned activities regarding Arabic Language Resources and their applications, industrial uses and needs.

Arabic is a challenging language for the field of computational linguistics. This is due to many factors including its complex and rich morphology, its high degree of ambiguity as well as the presence of a number of dialects that vary quite widely. Arabic is also a language with important geopolitical connections. It is spoken by over 400 million people in countries with varying degrees of prosperity and stability. It is the primary language of the latest world refugee problem affecting the Middle East and Europe. The opportunities that are made possible by working on this language and its dialects cannot be underestimated in their consequence on the Arab World, the Mediterranean Region and the rest of the World.

There has been a lot of progress in the last 20 years in the area of Arabic Natural Language Processing (NLP). Many Arabic NLP (or Arabic NLP-related) workshops and conferences have taken place, both in the Arab World and in association with international conferences.

This workshop will provide a forum for researchers to share and discuss their ongoing work related to building Arabic Language Resources covering all Arabic varieties.

The program includes a mixture of **invited speakers**, **oral presentations**, a **poster session** and a **breakout session**.

We invite submissions on topics that include, but are not limited to dictionaries, lexicons, ontologies, annotated data, annotation tools and methods, data collection methods, corpora, etc.

Associated Workshop

[The Second ArabicSpeech Meeting](#) will be held on 20 and 21 of April. Details can be found [here](#).

Submissions

Submissions may include work in progress as well as completed projects. We encourage submissions to have a clear focus on specific issues pertaining to the Arabic language, whether it is standard Arabic, dialectal, or mixed. Submissions on other languages sharing problems faced by Arabic are also welcome. Descriptions of commercial systems are welcome, but authors should be willing to discuss the details of their work.

Participants may submit a poster **and/or** an abstract

Important Dates

February 10, 2020: Abstracts / Posters due date. Submit your poster/abstracts to: wzaghoulani@hbku.edu.qa

February 25, 2020: Notification of Acceptance

April 22, 2020: Workshop Date

Submission Format

The posters standard format is A0.

Abstracts submissions should have a minimum of 200 words.

Organizers

Mohamed Afify – Microsoft

Ahmed Ali – QCRI

Yasser Hifny – Cerence

Erfan Loweimi - University of Edinburgh

Jan Trmal - JHU

Wajdi Zaghoulani - HBKU

Imed Zitouni – Google

Register

You can register for the workshop [here](#).

Contacts

You can also email us at: wzaghoulani@hbku.edu.qa