

BAKTYGUL CHYNYBAEVA

2320 Stone Road, Ann Arbor, MI, 48105 • bchyny@umich.edu • +14783904316

Journalist and communication professional with over 20 years of experience in investigative reporting, feature writing, and multimedia production. Recognized for excellence in healthcare, climate change, and human rights reporting, with expertise in managing cross-regional projects and creating impactful storytelling. Adept at leveraging multilingual capabilities (Kyrgyz, Russian, Turkish, English, and others) to cover diverse topics across Central Asia and beyond. Skilled in data analysis, video/audio editing, and developing strategic communications for NGOs and media outlets. Award-winning fellow and trainer committed to promoting media independence and sustainable development.

WORK EXPERIENCE

Research-Scholar, Knight-Wallace Journalism Fellowship, University of Michigan **Aug 2024 - Present**

- Implementing research on Central Asia's media independence from Russia.
- Attending University of Michigan classes and journalism seminars

Correspondent, Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty, Central Newsroom **Aug 2023 - Aug 2024**

- Creating and pitching feature stories with data analysis and infographics
- Scripting and editing and producing video stories from Central Asia
- Conducting and publishing investigations from Russia, Ukraine and Central Asia
- Monitoring Central Asian and Caucasus language services to create news and articles

Correspondent, Azattyk Media RFE/RL's Kyrgyz bureau **Nov 2013 - June 2023**

- Pitching and producing TV and radio programs on healthcare, human rights, climate change, energy security, and regional communication.
- Producing weekly radio/video podcasts Healthy Lifestyle and Green Planet
- Conducting investigations

Communication Manager, Climate Action Network Eastern Europe, Caucasus, Central Asia **Nov 2013 - June 2023**

- Managing communications of CAN EECCA, creating weekly newsletters in two languages
- Creating statements, content for the website and social media
- Organizing and conducting strategic planning, as well as trainings for EECCA NGOs

Lecturer, Kyrgyz-Turkish Manas University **Sep 2010 - June 2011**

- Organizing class syllabuses, lecturing classes
- Teaching Kyrgyz to foreign academic staff.

Editor, Kyrgyz National News Agency Kabar **May 2006 - Sep 2010**

- Editing and publishing daily, weekly news to the website
- Pitching news and story ideas, creating stories
- Creating daily newsletters to subscribers

Correspondent, Newspaper Zaman Kyrgyzstan **July 2000 - May 2006**

- Pitching, writing and publishing local, international stories
- Editor of the newspaper's additional magazine for children

EDUCATION

Master of Social Sciences

Sep 2003 - June 2005

Kyrgyz-Turkish University of Manas

- Specialization in Turkology -- Social Sciences

Bachelor of Social Sciences

Sep 1998 - June 2003

Bishkek Humanitarian University

- Faculty of International Cultures and Turkology
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AWARDS AND FELLOWSHIPS

- 2024 Knight Wallace Journalism Fellowship
- 2023 Daisy Sindellar Regional Exchange Fellowship, RFE/RL
- 2023 Senior Trainer for Climate Journalism Training (ECOCAMP, Osh & Bishkek)
- 2022 Senior Journalist for UNEP's "Vanishing Treasure" Workshop (GRIDArendal)
- 2022 Oxford Climate Journalism Network Fellowship (Climate Change Reporting)
- 2021 Internews National Aspiration Award for National Healthcare Reporting
- 2021 Earth Journalism Network CCMP COP26 Reporting Fellowship (Glasgow)
- 2018 Mercy National Award for Healthcare Reporting

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

- **Technical Skills:** Adobe Creative Cloud, Data Analysis, Infographics, Video and audio editing
- **Languages:** Kyrgyz, Russian, Turkish, English, Uzbek, Kazakh, Turkmen, Azerbaijani
- **LinkedIn**