

Algerian women journalists raised in France: unusual trajectories in the service of socialist Algeria in the 1980s (Chloé Nejma Rondeleux)

## Abstract

Ghania Hammadou and Keltoum Staali were two top names of the Algerian weekly *Révolution africaine* in the 1980s. In the society section, they reported on the daily lives of young people, education issues, union mobilizations and social concerns (Phéline, 2024). Hired in the mid-1980s by the newspaper owned by the Front de libération nationale (FLN) party, they shared not only their professional experience within a dynamic editorial team, but also a similar social status as single working women, as well as militant commitments among communist networks (Rahal, 2017). Both also grew up in France in working-class immigrant families.

Based on the trajectories of these two journalists, this paper aims to contribute to the little-documented history of the media in independent Algeria (Brahimi, 1989) and of women journalists in the context of an Algerian society in upheaval with the October 1988 revolt (Abed, 1990). To this end, this contribution draws on interviews conducted with Ghania Hammadou and Keltoum Staali in 2021-2022, their personal archives and archives from the Algerian press of the 1990s.

Through the intersecting paths of these two journalists, a portrait emerges of an unknown generation of bi-national journalists who made a major contribution to the development of the Algerian press.

## Biography

Chloé Nejma Rondeleux is a PhD student in History at the University Paris 1-Panthéon Sorbonne. Since 2019, she has been working on a thesis entitled “Être journaliste dans les années 1980 en Algérie : une profession en quête d'affirmation” under the co-direction of Sylvie Thénault and Leyla Dakhli. As part of this research, she took part in the Rencontres internationales de recherches sur le journalisme organized in Bordeaux in December 2022 with a paper entitled “Le Mouvement des journalistes algériens (MJA): étude et apports d'une expérience inédite de combat dans l'histoire de la profession (1987-1991)” and wrote an article on the Algiers school of Journalism published in 2022 in the academic journal *L'Année du Maghreb*. Between 2012 and 2018, she worked as a journalist in Algiers.