

Annabelle Lee



Strategic communicator and **former journalist** with 8+ years of experience in policy advocacy, multimedia storytelling, policy and news analysis, and international relations.

Proven track record in high-level speechwriting, advocacy in gender equality and sexual and reproductive health and rights, and investigative reporting.

Professional Experience

2025 Writer and communications consultant

United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) in Malaysia

Strategic advocacy: Jointly developed communication strategies to advance sexual and reproductive health and rights, gender equality, productive ageing, and to end gender-based violence and harmful practices in Malaysia.

Executive writing: Developed speeches for country representative and assistant representative, along with long-form written pieces to strengthen advocacy.

Partner relations: Provided advice and strategic communications support for engagements with partners including civil society organisations, government agencies, state governments and federal ministries.

2022-2024 Independent journalist and writer

Self-employed

Data journalism: Researched and wrote “Building Arks for Corals” – a data-driven article on coral health in Malaysia published in Malaysian environment and sustainability publication Macaranga, Taiwanese financial magazine Commonwealth 天下 and Austrian political and cultural magazine DATUM.

Newsletters: Wrote weekly newsletters for independent publication Between The Lines distilling the most pressing Malaysian and international news.

Special projects: Published Changing Chinatown – a long-form feature on how Kuala Lumpur’s Petaling Street area has changed across the decades – in a zine that was launched at the 2024 Kuala Lumpur International Book Fair. Also conducted research and rapporteur work for reportage, conferences and events.

2017-2022 Journalist

Malaysiakini (English desk)

Award-winning coverage: Recipient of 2019 Malaysian Press Institute-Petronas Best Multimedia Journalism Award for May 13, never again – an investigative project to commemorate 50 years since the May 13, 1969 racial riots focusing on national reconciliation and historical significance.

Political reporting: Covered people, policy, politics, national elections and the Covid-19 pandemic under four federal governments.

Multimedia presence: Provided frequent live news commentary on national radio station LiteFM (105.7FM in the Klang Valley) from 2018-2022.

Education

2022-2023	Entrepreneurship Acceleration Program: Scaling Your Business The Wharton School, University of Pennsylvania (online)
2013-2016	Bachelor of Arts <ul style="list-style-type: none">Politics and International StudiesMedia and Communications University of Melbourne, Australia

Selected Community and Leadership Roles

2022-Now	Volunteer teacher for refugee students Agape Mission School
2014-2016	Organising Committee Malaysian Progressives in Australia <ul style="list-style-type: none">Set up the only Malaysian student activist group in Melbourne.Ran fortnightly discussions on Malaysian politics and current issues.Launched university-wide campaign for fair work rights for international students.
2015-2016	Organising Committee Bersih Melbourne 4.0 and 5.0 <p>Organised and coordinated the Melbourne chapter of Bersih 4 and 5 rallies to demand clean and fair elections, the right to dissent, institutional reform, and the strengthening of parliamentary democracy.</p>

Get in touch!

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