

ArabicNLP 2026

The Fourth Arabic Natural Language Processing Conference

Volume 2. Proceedings of the ArabicNLP 2026 Shared Tasks

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Introduction

Welcome to the proceedings of the Shared Tasks at the **Fourth Arabic Natural Language Processing Conference (ArabicNLP 2026)**, co-located with **EMNLP 2026** in Budapest, Hungary, October 28 and 29, 2026.

This volume represents a major achievement in collaborative Arabic NLP research, bringing together a total of **212 papers from 15 shared tasks**, including **15 overview papers** and **197 system description papers** from participating teams worldwide. Each of the 15 overview papers and each system description paper was reviewed by three reviewers. This substantial collection reflects the growing vitality and maturity of the Arabic NLP research community and showcases the field’s expansion into increasingly diverse and sophisticated challenges.

This year marks a new record for ArabicNLP, featuring the largest number of shared tasks to date, **15 in total**, up from 11 last year, and the largest number of system description papers, up from 127. The collection highlights the community’s growing interest in evaluating, aligning and extending large language models for Arabic across text, speech and multimodal domains, as well as in culturally grounded and ethically sensitive applications. The process began with **27 submitted shared task proposals**, of which **20 were accepted: 10 proceeded independently**, while **10 were merged into five tasks, resulting in 15 shared tasks in total**. This outcome underscores the community’s strong spirit of collaboration and its collective effort to design impactful, high quality shared tasks.

Organization and Participation of the Shared Tasks

The 15 shared tasks at ArabicNLP 2026 are organized into four thematic tracks, each addressing critical needs and emerging priorities in Arabic language technology. Together, they represent the community’s most comprehensive shared task effort to date, covering speech and multimodal processing, dialectal variation, text structure and readability, content safety, and the evaluation of knowledge, hallucination and agentic behavior in large language models.

The paper counts below refer to system description papers; each task also contributes one overview paper.

Track 1: Speech, Multimodal and Dialectal Processing

This track features five shared tasks that advance Arabic language processing beyond standard written text:

- **NADI 2026** (Robust and Mixed-Dialect Arabic Speech Processing), 14 papers
- **ArA-DF 2026** (Arabic Speech Deepfake Detection), 8 papers
- **ImageEval 2026** (Culturally Grounded Arabic Multimodal Evaluation), 12 papers
- **AlexandriaX 2026** (Context-Aware Dialectal Arabic Machine Translation and Evaluation), 12 papers
- **DialectSentEval 2026** (Arabic Dialect Sentiment Analysis and Dialect Swapping), 16 papers

These tasks address the pressing need for technologies that can process Arabic across different modalities and the full range of dialectal variation.

Track 2: Text Structure, Readability and Discourse

This track comprises four shared tasks focused on the structure and accessibility of Arabic text:

- **BAREC 2026** (Second Shared Task on Arabic Readability Assessment), 10 papers

- **Arabic Sentence Segmentation**, 14 papers
- **Daleel 2026** (Arabic Argumentative Discourse Mining), 10 papers
- **AraGenre** (Hierarchical Definition-Guided Arabic Genre Classification), 11 papers

These tasks tackle foundational challenges in automated assessment, text segmentation and discourse analysis, where Arabic has long lacked standardized benchmarks.

Track 3: Safety, Stance and Content Moderation

This track presents two shared tasks focused on harmful content detection and stance classification in Arabic.

- **StanceEval 2026** (Stance Detection in Arabic), 18 papers
- **ArGuard** (Detection of Harmful Content in Arabic Memes and LLM Prompts), 25 papers

These tasks respond to the urgent practical need for moderation and safety technologies that work reliably on Arabic content, including multimodal content and adversarial prompts.

Track 4: Knowledge, Hallucination and Agentic Evaluation

This track introduces four shared tasks designed to evaluate what large language models know, when they fabricate, and how they act:

- **IslamicEval 2026** (Fine-Grained Hallucination Detection in Arabic Islamic Content), 11 papers
- **HalluScoring** (LLM Hallucination Detection in Arabic Question Answering), 10 papers
- **KnowledgeGraphEval 2026** (Arabic Knowledge Graph Construction and Domain Adaptation), 12 papers
- **AISA-ArabFC** (Arabic Function Calling for Agentic AI Systems), 14 papers

These tasks represent a critical step toward ensuring that AI systems represent Arabic knowledge accurately, signal their own uncertainty, and behave reliably when given the ability to act.

A Community Impact and Participation

The response to this year’s shared tasks, with **197 system description papers across the 15 tasks**, demonstrates the Arabic NLP community’s continued growth and dynamism. Participating teams represent a diverse range of institutions across multiple continents, including universities, research centers and industry partners, reflecting both the global interest in Arabic NLP and the real-world relevance of these challenges.

The breadth of methodological approaches presented in these proceedings is particularly noteworthy, spanning traditional machine learning techniques, state-of-the-art transformer models, retrieval-augmented generation systems, multimodal architectures and agentic pipelines. This methodological diversity reflects the field’s technical maturity and the creativity researchers bring to the specific challenges of Arabic language processing.

Select system description papers from this volume are presented in the two poster sessions of the conference, and each shared task is introduced to the full audience in a highlights segment at the end of an oral session, seven tasks on the first day and eight on the second.

Acknowledgments

We extend our sincere gratitude to the dedicated organizers of each shared task. Their expertise in task design, dataset development, evaluation framework creation and ongoing participant support has been fundamental to the success of these shared tasks. The quality and impact of this volume are a direct reflection of their commitment and hard work.

We thank all participating teams whose innovative research pushes the boundaries of Arabic NLP. Their contributions address not only technical challenges but also important societal needs in education, cultural preservation, content moderation and ethical AI development.

We also acknowledge the program committee members, reviewers, our fellow chairs and the ArabicNLP 2026 organizing committee for their invaluable support throughout the shared task cycle.

Finally, we gratefully acknowledge our sponsors, whose support has made this conference and these proceedings possible.

We hope this volume serves as both a comprehensive record of the current state of Arabic NLP research and a foundation for future innovations that will continue to advance language technologies for Arabic-speaking communities worldwide.

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Website of the shared Tasks: arabichnlp2026.sigarab.org/shared-tasks

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Program

Wednesday, October 28, 2026

- 08:50 - 09:30 *Opening, Welcome & Sponsor Acknowledgements*
- 09:30 - 10:30 *Keynote: From NLP for Arabic to NLP Through Arabic: What Must AI Understand Before We Trust It to Act? by Dr. Mona Diab*
- 10:30 - 11:00 *Coffee Break*
- 11:00 - 12:25 *Arabic Speech, Resources and Benchmarks*
- 12:30 - 14:00 *Lunch Break*
- 14:00 - 15:08 *Dialects, Machine Translation and Content Moderation*
- 15:11 - 15:25 *Shared Task Highlights I: 7 shared tasks, 2 minutes each*
- 15:11 - 15:13 *Shared Task Highlights*
- AraGenre 2026: A Hierarchical Definition-Guided Arabic Genre Classification Shared Task*
Mo El-Haj, Saad Ezzini, Shadi Abudalfa, Mustafa Jarrar, Nguyen Minh Chi and Quan Minh Nguyen
- 15:13 - 15:15 *Shared Task Highlights*
- DialectSentEval 2026: Arabic Dialect Sentiment Analysis and Swapping Shared Task*
Saad Ezzini, Shadi Abudalfa, Maram Alharbi, Salmane Chafik, Hind Saleh Alatawi, Mo El-Haj, Ahmed Abdelali, Osamah Alnahari and Salima Lamsiyah
- 15:15 - 15:17 *Shared Task Highlights*
- ImageEval 2026: Culturally Grounded Arabic Multimodal Evaluation*
Samir Abdaljalil, Hunzalah Hassan Bhatti, Ahlam Bashiti, Farina Amir, Md Arid Hasan, Basel Mousi, Nadir Durrani, Fahim Dalvi, Zien Sheikh Ali, Erchin Serpedin, Hasan Kurban, Mustafa Jarrar, Shammur Absar Chowdhury and Firoj Alam
- 15:17 - 15:19 *Shared Task Highlights*
- ArGuard Shared Task: Harmful Content Detection in Arabic Memes and LLM Prompts*
Firoj Alam, Md. Rafiul Biswas, Mohamed Bayan Kmainasi, Ali Ezzat Shahroor, Hamdy Mubarak, George Mikros, Abul Hasnat and Wajdi Zaghouani

Wednesday, October 28, 2026 (continued)

15:19 - 15:21 *Shared Task Highlights*

AlexandriaX 2026: The First Shared Task on Dialectal Arabic Machine Translation

Abdellah El Mekki, AbdelRahim A. Elmadany, Samar M. Magdy, Saad Ezzini, Mo El-Haj, Mustafa Jarrar, Zaid Alyafeai, Bernard Ghanem and Muhammad Abdul-Mageed

15:21 - 15:23 *Shared Task Highlights*

Halluscoring 2026: The First Shared Task on LLM Hallucination Detection Answer Verification

Aisha Alansari, Abdessalam Boucekif, Ahmed Abul Hasanaath, Salah Eddine Bekhouche, Malak Alkhorasani, Mohammed-En-Nadhir Zighem, Saad Ezzini, Hichem Telli, Hend Al-Khalifa, Muhammad Abdul-Mageed, Abdenour Hadid and Hamzah Luqman

15:23 - 15:25 *Shared Task Highlights*

AISA-ArabicFC: The First Shared Task on Arabic Function Calling for Agentic AI Systems

Omer Nacar, Wareef Alzubaidi and Mohammed Alkhalifah

15:30 - 16:30 *Coffee Break & Poster Session 1 (main conference and shared task posters)*

16:30 - 17:20 *Panel 1: Inclusive Arabic NLP*

17:20 - 17:30 *Awards*

Thursday, October 29, 2026

08:50 - 09:00	<i>Opening</i>
09:00 - 09:30	<i>Fireside Chat</i>
09:30 - 10:21	<i>Arabic for Education and Islamic Knowledge</i>
10:30 - 11:00	<i>Coffee Break</i>
11:00 - 12:25	<i>Arabic Resources, Morphology and Syntax</i>
12:30 - 14:00	<i>Lunch Break</i>
14:00 - 15:08	<i>LLM Evaluation, Safety and Detoxification</i>
15:11 - 15:27	<i>Shared Task Highlights II: 8 shared tasks, 2 minutes each</i>
15:11 - 15:13	<i>Shared Task Highlights</i>
	<i>BAREC-ST-2026: The Second Shared Task on Arabic Readability Assessment</i> Khalid N. Elmadani, Bashar Alhafni, Hanada Taha and Nizar Habash
15:13 - 15:15	<i>Shared Task Highlights</i>
	<i>StanceEval 2026: The Second Stance Detection Shared Task</i> Rasha Albalawi, Nuha Albadi, Hamzah Luqman, Asma Z. Yamani, Maram Kurdi, Saad Ezzini, Ahmed Ashraf, Maged S. Al-shaibani and Nora Alturayeif
15:15 - 15:17	<i>Shared Task Highlights</i>
	<i>KnowledgeGraphEval 2026: The First Shared Task on Arabic Knowledge Graphs</i> Alaa Aljabari, Nagham Hamad, Abdellah El Mekki, Muhammad Abdul-Mageed, Imed Zitouni, Sanjay Chawla and Mustafa Jarrar
15:17 - 15:19	<i>Shared Task Highlights</i>

Thursday, October 29, 2026 (continued)

NADI 2026: The Second Multidialectal Arabic Speech Processing Shared Task

Peter Sullivan, Bashar Talafha, Ahmed Ashraf, Fethi Bougares, Haroun Elleuch, Chiyu Zhang, AbdelRahim A. Elmadany, Youssef Mohamed, Salima Mdhaffar, Yannick Estève, Mohamed Elhoseiny, Hamzah Luqman, Nizar Habash and Muhammad Abdul-Mageed

15:19 - 15:21 *Shared Task Highlights*

Arabic Sentence Segmentation Shared Task 2026

Mohammed Elkholy, Khalid N. Elmadani, Nizar Habash and Bashar Alhafni

15:21 - 15:23 *Shared Task Highlights*

Daleel 2026 Shared Task on Arabic Argumentative Discourse Mining

Sara Nabhani, Nahla Bassyouni, Ali Al-Zawqari, Mohammad Khader and Khalid Al Khatib

15:23 - 15:25 *Shared Task Highlights*

IslamicEval 2026: The Second Shared Task of Capturing LLMs Hallucination in Islamic Content

Rahaf Alharbi, Abdulelah Alturki, Watheq Mansour, Rana Malhas, Hamdy Mubarak, Kareem Mohamed Darwish, Tamer Elsayed and Walid Magdy

15:25 - 15:27 *Shared Task Highlights*

ArA-DF 2026: Findings of the First Shared Task on Arabic Speech Deepfake Detection

Vasista Sai Lodagala, Yassine El Kheir, Sara Althubaiti, Pedro Jose Moreno Mengibar and Ahmed Ali

15:30 - 16:30 *Coffee Break & Poster Session 2 (main conference and shared task posters)*

16:30 - 17:20 *Panel 2: ArabicNLP Growth*

17:20 - 17:30 *Closing Remarks*