

Speakers' Profiles

Panel discussion: Are you ready to live with AI?

2 June 2022, 16:00-17:00CET/ 17:00-18:00EET

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Introduction to MOOC AI in Society - Dr. Jukka Nurminen

is a professor of computer science at the University of Helsinki. He has worked extensively on software research in the telecom industry at Nokia Research Center, in academia at Aalto University, and in applied research at VTT. His key research contributions are on energy-efficient software, mobile peer-to-peer networking, and cloud solutions but his experience ranges widely from applied optimization to AI, from network planning tools to mobile apps, and from software project management to tens of patented inventions. He received his MSc degree in 1986 and PhD degree in 2003 from Helsinki University of Technology (now Aalto University) in applied mathematics. Currently, his main interests are in the engineering of machine learning systems, fair and reliable operation of AI, and software development for quantum computers.



Introduction to MOOC AI in Society - Tomi Kokkonen

is a post-doctoral researcher in philosophy as well as the content lead and coordinator of the AI in Society MOOC for Una Europa. He defended his dissertation in 2021 and is currently working in the Robophilosophy, AI Ethics, and Datafication Research Group (RADAR) in the University of Helsinki. He also teaches in the Information Networks programme in the Aalto University. His areas of interest include philosophy of science and philosophy of technology, especially AI and robotics, as well as the ethical and societal aspects of technology in general.



Jarmo Eskelinen

is executive director for the Data-Driven Innovation initiative and a smart city & data expert with background in architecture and digital media. He is based at the University of Edinburgh, leading the Data Driven Innovation (DDI) programme. The 15-year, £660m DDI is part of the Edinburgh City Region Deal, spanning across ten industry domains from creative industries to healthcare and robotics. Previously Jarmo has been the CITO of the Future Cities Catapult, founder and CEO of Forum Virium innovation lab of the City of Helsinki and Executive Director of the Aalto University Media Centre. Jarmo is a member of the Smart London Board, board member of Open Knowledge International, and former President of the European Network of Living Labs ENoLL. He loves cycling in cities.



Eric Osei-Assibey

is Associate Professor of Economics and Dean of International Programmes of the University of Ghana. And a former head of the Department of Distance Education of the same University. He is also a Senior Research Fellow at the Institute of Economic Affairs (IEA), Accra and a Non-resident Research Fellow at the CEQ Institute, Tulane University, USA. He holds PhD in Development Economics from Nagoya University, Japan and a Post-Graduate Scholar at the Brown International Advanced Research Institutes (BIARI) at the Brown University, USA, where he studied 'Development and Inequality in the Global South. Eric's primary research focuses on Financial inclusion, monetary policy and banking. He is also an expert in development macroeconomics, including fiscal policy, international trade finance and poverty and inequality issues in Africa. He has published extensively in leading international journals. Eric has also consulted widely for both domestic and international organisations such as the Ministry of Finance, Ministry of Trade and Industry, Bank of Ghana, National Development Planning Commission, Ghana Statistical Service, Development Bank Ghana, UNICEF, UNDP, UNFPA, the World Bank, ECOWAS Commission, GIZ, IFPRI, Oxfam, GOGIG (DFID), ActionAid, Compassion Pricewatercoopers (PwC) and some commercial banks in Ghana. He has also served on several boards including the Universal Merchant Bank (UMB) and Callens Solutions Plc. Currently, he serves on the governing board of the Bank of Ghana. He is also a member of several academic associations and networks including, Applied Global Studies (USA), International Banking, Economics and Finance Association (IBEFA), USA, African Economic and Research Consortium, Kenya, and Fellow of Institute of Money, Technology and Financial Inclusion (IMTFI), USA.



Alessandra Scagliarini

is currently Full Professor at the Department of Specialist Medicine and Experimental Diagnostics and Vice-rector of International Relations at Alma Mater Studiorum University of Bologna. She is coordinator of several national research projects funded by the Ministry of Education, University and Research, Ministry of Health, Emilia Romagna Region and international projects funded by the EU. She is currently scientific lead in the Erasmus+ Capacity Building initiative ELEPHANT (Empowering universities' Learning and rEsearch caPacities in the oneHealth Approach for the maNagement of animals at the wildlife, livestock and human interface in SouTh Africa) coordinated by the University of Utrecht and involving six South African universities and several public and private associated partners. She is also involved in research projects related to One Health in collaboration with national and international research centers.

From 2015 to 2021 she was appointed Vice Rector for International Relations of the University of Bologna, in 2019 she served as Chair of the Board of Directors of the European Alliance Una Europa and is part of the Self Steering Committee of the 1EUROPE Project funded under the Erasmus+ Strategic Partnership in 2019. From January 2022, she is leading the UNA- One Health Self Steering Committee of the Una Europa Alliance.



Petri Ylikoski

Petri Ylikoski is a Professor of Science and Technology Studies at the Faculty of Social Sciences at the University of Helsinki and Visiting Professor at the Institute for Analytical Sociology at Linköping University. Petri started his career as a philosopher, defending his dissertation in 2001. Petri has always seen himself at the crossroads between philosophy and social sciences. Hence, a chair in the interdisciplinary field of Science and Technology Studies (since 2012) is a natural fit for him. His current research focuses on the foundations of mechanism-based social science, institutional epistemology, and the social consequences of artificial intelligence. Petri leads the SRC-funded interdisciplinary research project Data Literacy and Responsible Decision-Making, aiming at understandable and trustworthy practices utilizing Finnish health, social, and welfare data. He is also the coordinating professor for the research program AI in Society in Finnish Center for Artificial Intelligence.



Moderator - Dr Jaakko Kurhila

works as the Chief Digital Officer at the University of Helsinki. He graduated from the University of Helsinki with MSc in Computer Science in 1997, PhLic in 2000, and PhD in 2003. He is an eager proponent of excellence in education, and has extensive international experience in building ICT education for development in international settings.