

# DR. TAREK R. BESOLD

Tarek.Besold@gmail.com · <https://www.linkedin.com/in/tarekbesold/>  
<http://www.tarekbesold.com>

Senior Research Scientist, Flagship Project Lead, and Head of the Barcelona Office at Sony AI (<https://ai.sony/>). Visiting Researcher at the Philosophy & Ethics Group, Department of Industrial Engineering and Innovation Sciences, TU Eindhoven.

Previously Head of Strategic AI at DEKRA Digital GmbH and VP at DEKRA SE (<https://www.dekra.com/>), CTO with acting managerial responsibility for technology, standardization and operations at Neurocat GmbH (AI quality, <http://www.neurocat.ai>), and Chief Science Officer at Alpha Health, the health tech moonshot of Telefonica (now Koa Health, <http://www.koahealth.com>). Start-up advisor and consulting AI policy expert. Founding chairman (2018-2023) of the DIN/DKE Standards Working Committee on AI NA 043-01-42 GA (<http://bit.ly/2QeNg7n>).

Strategic topical leadership at the intersection between AI, behavioral science, and the design of game-changing digital products. In-depth expertise in artificial intelligence, cognitive systems, and cognitive science, with strong analytical skills and the ability to carry theoretical insights all the way through to applications in technology products. Experience in building multidisciplinary teams and developing individual staff profiles in R&D and innovation contexts.

## WORK EXPERIENCE

01/2023 – TODAY

**SENIOR RESEARCH SCIENTIST**, SONY AI (BARCELONA, ES)

02/2021 – 12/2022

**HEAD OF STRATEGIC AI**, DEKRA DIGITAL GMBH (BERLIN/STUTTGART, DE)

11/2020 – 02/2021

**CTO & ACTING MANAGING PARTNER**, NEUROCAT GMBH (BERLIN, DE)

07/2019 – 08/2020

**CHIEF SCIENCE OFFICER**, HEALTH MOONSHOT @ TELEFONICA INNOVACION ALPHA (BARCELONA, ES)

09/2018 – 06/2019

**AI LEAD**, HEALTH MOONSHOT @ TELEFONICA INNOVACION ALPHA (BARCELONA, ES)

09/2017 – 08/2018

**LECTURER/ASSISTANT PROFESSOR IN DATA SCIENCE**, CITY, UNIVERSITY OF LONDON (LONDON, UK)

09/2016 – 08/2017

**POSTDOCTORAL RESEARCH FELLOW**, DIGITAL MEDIA LAB, UNIVERSITY OF BREMEN (BREMEN, DE)

10/2015 – 08/2016

**POSTDOCTORAL RESEARCH FELLOW**, RESEARCH CENTRE FOR KNOWLEDGE AND DATA, FREE UNIVERSITY OF BOZEN-BOLZANO (BOZEN-BOLZANO, IT)

01/2014 – 06/2014

**VISITING RESEARCHER**, UNIVERSITY OF EDINBURGH (EDINBURGH, UK)

03/2011 – 09/2015

**RESEARCH FELLOW & PART-TIME LECTURER**, UNIVERSITY OF OSNABRÜCK (OSNABRÜCK, DE)

## ADVISORY

08/2023 – TODAY

**ADVISOR**, CERTIF.AI GMBH (BERLIN/HAMBURG, DE)

11/2022 – TODAY

**ADVISOR**, CALVIN RISK AG (ZURICH, CH)

08/2020 – 04/2021

**CONSULTING AI EXPERT**, THE AI INITIATIVE @ THE FUTURE SOCIETY (BOSTON, MA, USA)

08/2020 – 03/2021

**ADVISOR**, DALANG TECHNOLOGIES INC. (CAMBRIDGE, MA, USA)

04/2018 – 08/2019

**CONSULTANT**, HEALTH MOONSHOT @ TELEFONICA INNOVACION ALPHA (BARCELONA, ES)

12/2017 – 08/2020

**ADVISOR**, NEUROCAT GMBH (BERLIN, DE)

## SELECTED OTHER ROLES/POSITIONS

12/2022 – TODAY

**EDITOR IN CHIEF**, NEUROSymbolic Artificial Intelligence, IOS PRESS (AMSTERDAM, NL)

04/2021 – TODAY

**VISITING RESEARCHER**, PHILOSOPHY & ETHICS GROUP, DEPT. OF INDUSTRIAL ENGINEERING & INNOVATION SCIENCES, TU EINDHOVEN (EINDHOVEN, NL)

03/2018 – 12/2023

**CHAIRMAN**, DIN/DKE STANDARDS WORKING COMMITTEE ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE NA 043-01-42 GA (BERLIN, DE)

06/2021 – 12/2023

**MEMBER**, EXPERT GROUP OF THE GERMAN NATIONAL “COORDINATION GROUP AI STANDARDIZATION AND CONFORMITY” (BERLIN, DE)

08/2019 – 04/2020

**MEMBER**, STEERING GROUP “GERMAN NATIONAL STANDARDIZATION ROADMAP FOR AI” (BERLIN, DE)

## EDUCATION

DECEMBER 2014

**PHD IN COGNITIVE SCIENCE**, UNIVERSITY OF OSNABRÜCK (OSNABRÜCK, DE)

Graduation *summa cum laude* (best PhD evaluation possible in the German academic system) with a PhD thesis on “Cognitive Aspects of Human-Level Artificial Intelligence”.

FEBRUARY 2011

**LOGIC YEAR CERTIFICATE**, UNIVERSITY OF AMSTERDAM (AMSTERDAM, NL)

Graduation with a grade average of 8.2/10 (equiv. *cum laude* in the Dutch academic system).

DECEMBER 2009

**DIPLOM (EQUIV. MSC) IN MATHEMATICS**, UNIVERSITY OF ERLANGEN-NÜRNBERG (ERLANGEN, DE)

Graduation with grade average 1.3 (equiv. GPA 3.8/4) and a graduation thesis in AI on “Theory and Implementation of Multi-Context Systems Containing Logical and Sub-Symbolic Contexts of Reasoning”.

## FURTHER ACTIVITIES

- Author of 80+ scientific publications (Google Scholar citation count: 2748/h-index: 20)
- Frequent reviewer for high-impact scientific journals and internationally leading conferences in AI, cognitive science, and related fields
- Science communication and societal outreach especially on topics relating to AI and its likely future impact on society and daily life

## **LANGUAGES**

- German (native)
- English (excellent)
- Spanish (good)
- Dutch (good)
- French (good)