

Contact

www.linkedin.com/in/wasrahman

(LinkedIn)

www.aiprescience.com (Company)

orcid.org/0000-0002-0087-327X

(Other)

www.wasrahman.com (Personal)

Top Skills

AI Ethics

Artificial Intelligence (AI)

Diversity & Inclusion

Languages

Russian

Polish

German

French

Publications

AI & Machine Learning

The case for re-examining IT effectiveness

The Blind Men and the Elephant: Demystifying the Global IT Services Industry

Software quality by management: Learning from the manufacturing industries

7 Habits of Highly Effective AI Business Projects

Was Rahman - Ethical, Responsible AI

AI Ethics Researcher @ Universities of Bonn & Coventry | AI Expert Working Group Member @ UKTIN | CEO @ AI Prescience | Fellow @ Royal Statistical Society | Editorial Committee Member @ CogX
London, England, United Kingdom

Summary

Was Rahman is an interdisciplinary researcher and consultant in Ethical AI in business. He is visiting researcher/research fellow at Bonn University, doctoral researcher at Coventry University, and advisor to business leaders.

At Bonn, his work on the "Third Wave of AI Ethics" with Markus Gabriel explores how ethics will evolve as AI becomes even more integrated into business and society. He is also a Research Fellow on the "Desirable Digitalisation" programme, a collaboration with the Leverhulme Centre for the Future of Intelligence (CFI) at Cambridge University.

At Coventry University, he investigates fairness in AI business decision-making, focusing on bias and discrimination. He is especially interested in how AI affects fairness in HR activities such as recruitment, performance assessment and workforce planning.

Outside academia, he advises business leaders on how to use AI ethically and responsibly, and is a Editorial Committee member at CogX.

Prior to his research work, Was spent 30 years in leadership roles at global technology firms such as Accenture and Infosys, using data and technology to improve clients' business performance.

Was is a member of the UKTIN AI Expert Working Group, the UK government-appointed telecoms industry innovation body. Earlier, he has briefed UK and Indian political leaders on technology industry initiatives and policies. As a UK Government IT sector specialist, he advised Ministers and their teams on the global technology industry.

Was graduated in Physics at Oxford and Computing at Coventry University. His AI and data science education is courtesy of Stanford, Johns Hopkins, Amazon and Google. He has been a guest lecturer at Oxford's Saïd Business School, Cambridge's Judge Business School, London Business School and IIT Madras.

An experienced speaker, Was has chaired, participated in and spoken at numerous conferences and panel sessions. These include events for the IoD, NASSCOM, Financial Times and Governments of India and UK, as well as the inaugural World Economic Forum "Young Global Leaders" meeting, and the UK Prime Minister's launch of London's Tech City.

Outside work, he can be obsessive about coffee, photography, classic cars and music.

Experience

The University of Bonn

Visiting Researcher/Research Fellow

August 2023 - Present (1 month)

Center for Science & Thought

Working on two main projects:

- Leading development of the CST's "Third Wave of AI Ethics" research programme, to investigate the evolution and next generation of AI ethics.

Principal Investigator: Markus Gabriel

- Research Fellow on the "Desirable Digitalisation" programme, investigating the rethinking of AI for just and sustainable futures. This is a collaboration between Bonn and the Leverhulme Centre for the Future of Intelligence (CFI) at Cambridge University. Principal Investigator (Bonn): Aimee van Wynsberghe

Coventry University

Researcher in AI Ethics, Fairness & Discrimination

September 2020 - Present (3 years)

Centre for Business in Society

Investigating AI Ethics, Fairness & Discrimination at Coventry University's Centre for Business in Society. Current focus includes:

- AI, fairness & race/gender discrimination (multi-disciplinary perspectives);

- the impact of AI on fairness in business decision-making, especially in HR; and
- how AI software development processes & tools contribute to biased decisions.

UKTIN

AI Expert Working Group

July 2023 - Present (2 months)

The UK Telecoms Innovation Network (UKTIN) Artificial Intelligence Expert Working Group considers both new approaches to AI and the broad-ranging applications of AI techniques to the telecoms sector.

AI Prescience

CEO

2018 - Present (5 years)

- Helping organisations improve business performance using AI ethically & responsibly.
- Providing knowledge, expertise & insight for business & technology leaders.
- Offering consulting, education, research & project services.

SKAI Labs Ltd.

Chief Client Officer

2016 - 2018 (2 years)

Managed client & partner relationships for an AI/Machine Learning services startup. Designed sales processes & metrics, led business development & set up technology partnerships.

Zayah

CTO & Co-Founder

2015 - 2018 (3 years)

Launched & ran digital startup that created & commercialised B2C e-commerce & content properties. Responsible for technology stack & operations; led analytics work for online sales & digital marketing; managed content & e-commerce operations.

Wipro

Vice President & Global Practice Head, Government & Higher Education

2014 - 2015 (1 year)

UK/APAC

Led 300-person \$70M global business delivering technology solutions to public sector clients, focusing on digital citizen services, data analytics & metrics-led process improvement.

Dolphin Advisory
Consulting Partner
2007 - 2014 (7 years)
UK/India

Provided strategic technology & business strategy services to SME & enterprise clients in India & UK. Focus areas included business performance metrics, sales & marketing improvement, product roadmaps, growth strategy & VC/PE funding.

UK Trade & Investment (UKTI)
Advisor & Sector Specialist, Global Technology Industry
2008 - 2013 (5 years)
UK

Helped innovative UK digital & technology SMEs break into international markets, including through partnerships with global enterprises. Provided advice & inputs on digital & technology policy to ministers & officials. Launched digital export support platform for UK tech sector.

Infosys Technologies
Head of Strategy, Innovation & Alliances, EMEA
2002 - 2007 (5 years)
UK/Australia/Japan/India

Responsible for EMEA business strategy to accelerate growth from \$250M-> \$1bn, including new solutions/services to improve differentiation & innovation. Earlier, led consulting work, focusing on data analytics/integration & technology process/governance improvement

Publicis Groupe
5 years
Client Partner, Digital Strategy (Scient)
1999 - 2002 (3 years)
UK/Holland

Consulting lead in US digital agency, subsequently acquired by global leader Publicis, focusing on strategy work around analytics, integration, distribution & e-commerce.

Client Partner, Digital Technology (Razorfish)

1997 - 1999 (2 years)

UK/Germany

Consulting partner in UK digital agency, subsequently acquired by global leader Publicis, focusing on developing data analytics/integration solutions & performance dashboards.

Andersen Consulting

Practice Head, Telco & Change Management

1993 - 1997 (4 years)

Poland/UK

Set up & led Polish Change Management & Telco Practices. Highlights include launching Poland's first digital mobile operator & implementing the first country's first SAP/R3 system

Education

University of Oxford

BA / MA (Hons), Physics

Coventry University

MSc (Distinction), Computer Science & Information Systems

Coventry University

PhD (in progress), Multidisciplinary AI Ethics

Stanford University

Professional Certification, Machine Learning

The Johns Hopkins University

Professional Certification, Data Science