

DR KATE BARKER

Media & Bio Kit

Approved biography · photography · speaker
introduction · media details

DR KATE BARKER · BOARD ADVISOR · CHIEF
FUTURIST · AUTHOR · KEYNOTE SPEAKER



Approved Biography

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50-WORD BIO

Dr Kate Barker is the advisor the advisors call. Chief Futurist at NEOM, strategic advisor to the office of the UAE Prime Minister, and executive advisor to BCG, Bain and McKinsey, she teaches at MIT and is the author of *Hidden Power: Human Judgement in the AI Era*.

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100-WORD BIO

When an institution adopts artificial intelligence believing it is buying capability, Dr Kate Barker is the one its board calls to ask where the power actually went. Chief Futurist at NEOM and strategic advisor to the office of the UAE Prime Minister, an executive advisor to BCG, Bain and McKinsey, she has reshaped AI and workforce strategy for national populations of twenty million, and argues that AI concentrates power beneath the institutions that adopt it, in whoever controls the infrastructure, the models and the standards they now run on. She teaches at MIT, holds a doctorate in business administration, and has taken that argument from Davos and the United Nations onto CNN, the BBC and CNBC. She is the author of *Hidden Power: Human Judgement in the AI Era*.

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EXTENDED BIO

Dr Kate Barker works from inside the rooms where the future of artificial intelligence is being decided, and increasingly she is among those building them. As Chief Futurist at NEOM, the \$2 trillion future city, and strategic advisor to the office of the UAE Prime Minister, she advises the boards and governments rebuilding themselves around AI, and the firms that advise everyone else. An executive advisor to BCG, Bain and McKinsey, she counsels institutions and sovereign funds at the highest level, has shaped AI and workforce strategy for national populations of twenty million, and has benchmarked more than four hundred global organisations to shape what comes next. She argues what few in those rooms will say aloud, that AI does not move power between institutions and states so much as concentrate it beneath them, in whoever controls the infrastructure, the models and the standards they now run on. She teaches at MIT, writes as a contributor to Forbes, and is the author of *Hidden Power: Human Judgement in the AI Era*. Her analysis features on CNN, the BBC, CNBC and CBS, and her keynotes have carried that argument from Davos and the United Nations to the OECD, the World Bank, SXSW and London Business School.

\$2T+

in client work advised

20M

in national workforces advised

90

keynotes and sessions in 2025

EXECUTIVE ADVISOR TO

BCG · Bain &
Company · McKinsey & Company

FEATURED ON

CNN · BBC · CNBC · CBS · Forbes · OECD · World
Bank · SXSW · London Business School

Awards & Recognition



Dr Kate Barker is internationally recognised for her work at the intersection of leadership, AI governance, workforce transformation and national competitiveness. Her expertise is sought by boards, governments and global institutions navigating complexity, risk and large-scale transformation.

2025

Global No.1 Chief Futurist
International Association of Top Professionals (IAOTP), United States

2024

Executive Coach of the Year
CEO Today Global Awards

Top 100 Global Influencers in the Future of Work
Future Talent Summit

Global Keynote Speaker of the Year,
Leadership & AI
Europe

Top 100 Global Women Leaders
White Page International

Global Leadership in AI Award
World Innovation Congress

Top 100 Most Influential Leaders
Thinkers360 Global Rankings

Lifetime Contribution to Leadership
Global Leadership Excellence Awards

Top 50 Global Voices in AI Governance
WEF Affiliated Expert Networks

Top 10 Thought Leaders in AI Safety
Global AI Ethics Institute

Top Executive Coach (Top 10)
CEO Today Global Awards

2023

Best in Class, Leadership & Transformation
International Excellence Awards

Digital Transformation & Innovation Leader
World Congress, Dubai

Women in Leadership Excellence Award
United Kingdom

2022

Distinguished Fellow, Leadership & Technology

Speaker Introduction + Approved Titles

SPEAKER INTRODUCTION

Please welcome Dr Kate Barker, board advisor, Chief Futurist, author and keynote speaker, who advises boards, governments and sovereign institutions on how AI concentrates power beneath the institutions that adopt it, and on the judgement leaders must keep as decisions move to the machine.

Today, she will speak on [insert keynote title].

APPROVED TITLES

- Board Advisor
- Chief Futurist
- Author
- Keynote Speaker
- AI & Workforce Transformation Advisor

PREFERRED DESCRIPTOR

Dr Kate Barker is a Chief Futurist, author and adviser to boards and governments at sovereign scale, on the question that defines the AI era: not whether to adopt it, but who holds the power once they do.

MEDIA THEMES

- Agentic AI and the accountability gap
- AI sovereignty and the race for control
- The AI productivity paradox
- Cognitive atrophy and the human drift
- Reinventing the organisation for the AI era
- AI governance at board level
- Human judgement in the AI era
- Institutional trust as the new advantage

SELECTED PLATFORMS

- World Economic Forum, Davos
- United Nations Global Futures Forum
- AI for Good Global Summit (ITU / UN)
- Bloomberg New Economy Forum
- Fortune Global Forum
- OECD Policy Forum, Paris
- Milken Institute Asia Summit
- The Economist Impact Summit
- Financial Times Future of Business Summit
- World Government Summit, Abu Dhabi
- PIF Leadership Forum, Riyadh
- NEOM Leadership Summit
- MIT Future of Work Symposium
- World AI Cannes Festival
- BRICS Urban Future Forum, Moscow
- VISION 2051 Summit, St Petersburg

Approved Photography

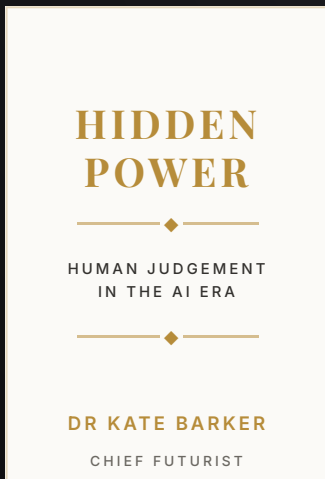
All images are supplied and approved by Dr Kate Barker.



For approved high-resolution images, contact **Charlie Reid**, Speaking & Media Enquiries:
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Book, Speaking Topics + Contact

BOOK



Hidden Power: Human Judgement in the AI Era

A book exploring the human capabilities organisations sharpen, weaken or surrender as AI becomes embedded in decision-making, leadership and work.



SPEAKING TOPICS

- The AI Performance Advantage
- Agentic AI and the Accountability Gap
- When AI Joins the Executive Team
- The Human Side of AI
- The New Psychology of Work
- The 2050 Briefing
- Behind Closed Doors
- Hidden Power

MEDIA THEMES

Agentic AI and accountability · AI sovereignty and the race for control · the AI productivity paradox · human judgement in the AI era

CONTACT

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Charlie Reid

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