



ERAI FELLOWSHIP

MEDIA COHORT

Programme Brochure



The **ERA Fellowship – Ethics & Responsible AI** is a premier executive learning experience designed for journalists and media professionals navigating the rapidly evolving AI landscape.

An initiative of **Knowledge Networks**, this fellowship equips media leaders with the insight, ethical grounding, and governance literacy required to report on artificial intelligence with clarity, responsibility, and institutional awareness.



ABOUT KNOWLEDGE NETWORKS

Knowledge Networks is a global platform dedicated to advancing responsible, ethical, and human-centered approaches to artificial intelligence and emerging technologies.

The organization brings together **governments, policymakers, industry leaders, journalists, civil society**, and **research communities** to foster informed dialogue and cross-sector collaboration on AI governance.

Through executive education programmes, advisory initiatives, expert networks, and international convenings, Knowledge Networks works to strengthen institutional capacity, promote accountability, and build AI ecosystems grounded in transparency and public trust.

The **ERAI Fellowship** reflects this broader mission – strengthening journalism’s role in shaping responsible AI narratives worldwide.

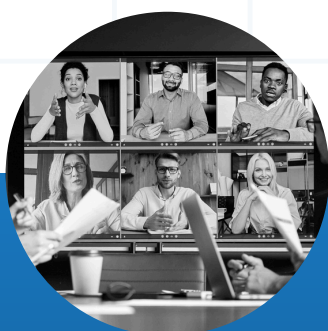


PROGRAMME OVERVIEW

The **ERAI Fellowship** equips **journalists** and **media experts** with the skills and understanding needed to report responsibly on artificial intelligence. With the rapid rise of artificial intelligence, it is essential for journalists to stay informed about the ethical and safety implications of these technologies. The fellowship does exactly this by combining expert-led instruction, applied learning, and real-world practice to strengthen public-interest journalism around AI.

The curriculum is anchored by a **series of live online seminars** (90 minutes each) led by **global experts** in **AI, ethics, governance, and sectoral impact**. These sessions provide journalists with a clear, non-technical understanding of how AI systems work, where risks arise, and how institutions shape the deployment and regulation of these technologies.

PROGRAMME STRUCTURE



Live Online Seminars

Expert-led sessions (90 minutes each) that provide non-technical, journalism-first understanding of AI systems, governance, and impact.



Applied Labs

Each seminar is paired with a lab consisting of multiple graded assignments that translate concepts into practical reporting tasks.



Capstone Project

A final, real-world project where fellows apply their learning to a concrete public-interest AI scenario.

CORE SEMINAR TRACK (INDUSTRY EXPERT LED SESSIONS)



WEEK 1 FOUNDATIONS OF AI

Go beyond the hype to understand how AI systems are built, where their limits lie, and why these foundations matter for journalism. This session connects the technical building blocks of AI to real-world questions of trust, governance, and risk, equipping journalists to report on AI with clarity, scepticism, and confidence.

Led by James Wilson- AI Ethicist and Lead Gen AI Architect at Capgemini

WEEK 2 ETHICS, BIAS & SAFETY

When AI systems fail, bias spreads, or harm goes unnoticed, journalists are often the first line of accountability. This session dives into the ethics and safety risks embedded in AI, from bias and surveillance to real-world failures and shows how organisations assess responsibility, and where they fall short. The session equips journalists to spot ethical red flags and report on AI harm with confidence and authority.

Led by Richard Benjamins- Chief Responsible AI officer at Telefónica and advisor to the Vatican



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WEEK 3

GOVERNANCE & GLOBAL AI POLICY

Who sets the rules for AI and who benefits when those rules are written? This session unpacks the global governance and policy frameworks shaping how AI is developed, regulated, and deployed across regions. This session equips journalists to navigate international standards, policy debates, and power dynamics that influence AI use worldwide.

Led by Dr. Irina Mirkina- Chief AI scientist at Fugro & AI lead at UNICEF

WEEK 4

INVESTIGATING MISINFORMATION & SYNTHETIC MEDIA

As AI-generated images, videos, and narratives flood the information ecosystem, journalists face growing pressure to verify what is real and what is not. This session equips reporters with practical tools and investigative approaches to detect synthetic media, uncover misinformation, and protect information integrity. The session focuses on verification discipline, newsroom decision-making, and public trust.

Led by Dr. Irina Mirkina- Chief AI scientist at Fugro & AI lead at UNICEF



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WEEK 5 DATA, METHODS & FOI

Investigating AI requires evidence, not assumptions. This session equips journalists with the data skills and methods needed to substantiate AI-related claims, from analysing datasets and public records to using Freedom of Information (FOI) requests effectively. Participants will learn how to trace AI systems through procurement data, incident databases, and institutional disclosures – and how to turn raw data into accountable reporting.

Led by Irina Mirkina- Dean for Executive Education at The AI Values Institute

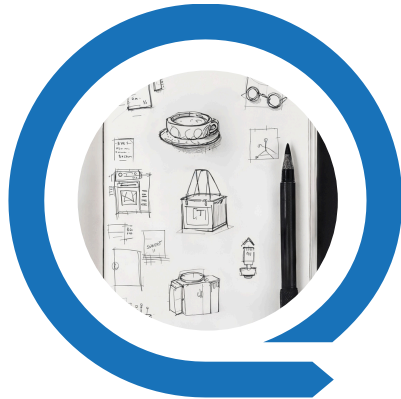
WEEK 6 SECTOR DEEP DIVES

AI does not affect all sectors or all regions equally. This session examines how AI is reshaping labour, development, and economic systems, with particular attention to Global South contexts. This session equips journalists to report on sector-specific impacts, uneven power dynamics, and the real-world consequences of AI beyond headline narratives.

Led by Harini Gopalakrishnan- CEO and founder of TheHGFactor



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WEEK 7 PRODUCTISING

Great AI reporting doesn't end with investigation; it must also earn audience trust. This session focuses on how journalists can productise complex AI stories through clear visuals, interactive formats, and transparent storytelling. Participants will explore how explainers, design choices, corrections, and audience engagement shape credibility in AI reporting, and how newsrooms can present complex findings without oversimplifying or losing trust.

Led by industry expert

WEEK 8 PUBLICATION & SAFETY

Publishing AI investigations can expose journalists and sources to legal, digital, and personal risk. This session focuses on how reporters can publish responsibly while protecting themselves, their sources, and their work. Participants will explore legal considerations, digital security, cross-border collaboration risks, and best practices for safe publication when reporting on powerful technologies and institutions.

Led by industry expert



APPLIED LEARNING LABS

(WHERE REPORTING SKILLS ARE BUILT)

Learning in the **ERAI Fellowship** is applied, not theoretical. Each seminar is followed by a structured lab component.

LABS INCLUDE:

- Multiple graded assignments linked directly to the seminar topic
- Scenario-based exercises reflecting real newsroom decisions
- Critical analysis tasks focused on verification, accountability, and ethics
- Opportunities to practice framing, questioning, and investigation

This approach ensures that participants **don't just understand AI**—but **know how to report** on it under real newsroom constraints.



CAPSTONE PROJECT: REAL-WORLD APPLICATION

The fellowship culminates in a **Graded Capstone Project**, where fellows work on a **real-life AI-related public-interest challenge**. The capstone is designed to reflect the complexity of reporting on AI in the real world to balance accuracy, ethics, governance, and audience trust.

Outstanding capstone work may be shortlisted for presentation and exposure at the G20 Summit in Miami, offering selected fellows a rare opportunity to bring journalistic work into global policy and governance spaces.



CONTINUOUS ASSESSMENT & FEEDBACK

The **ERAI Fellowship** follows a continuous assessment model, where progress is evaluated across labs and the capstone rather than through one-time exams.

This allows journalists to build confidence, refine judgement, and improve iteratively throughout the programme.

END-OF-PROGRAMME OUTCOMES

By the end of the ERAI Fellowship, participants will:

- **Develop** a strong, non-technical understanding of AI systems and their societal impact
- Be able to **critically evaluate** claims made by governments, companies, and platforms about AI
- **Gain** practical tools for investigating bias, risk, misinformation, and governance failures
- **Produce applied work** demonstrating ethical, accountable AI reporting
- **Be positioned** for recognition and exposure through the fellowship's capstone pathway



APPLY NOW

Applications for the **ERAI Fellowship** are submitted through the official application form.

Prospective applicants are encouraged to review programme details before submission.



Contact

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