



Dr Tomasz Hollanek

Dr Tomasz Hollanek is an Assistant Research Professor at the Cambridge Institute for Technology and Humanity and an Affiliated Lecturer in the Department of Computer Science and Technology at the University of Cambridge, working at the intersection of AI ethics, critical design, and human-AI interaction.

His current work spans three areas. First, he examines the ethics and societal implications of human-AI interaction design, focusing on AI companions and postmortem avatars ('griefbots'). His collaborative work on griefbots has received extensive international media attention, including coverage in The New York Times, The Guardian, and BBC. Second, he collaborates with industry and policy bodies to reform AI development practices through new design standards and policy. He co-developed HEAT – the High-Risk EU AI Act Toolkit – to support responsible compliance with the AI Act and pro-justice innovation, and chairs CAPING, a cross-sector policy group advancing guidelines for socially beneficial AI companions. Third, he leads participatory and intercultural projects that strengthen public understanding of AI, such as the AI & Journalism Toolkit and global AI literacy initiatives delivered with civil society partners including the Pulitzer Center across Southeast Asia, Africa, and South America.

Before his current role, Tomasz completed his PhD at Cambridge as a Vice-Chancellor's Scholar, was a Visiting Research Fellow at the École Normale Supérieure in Paris, and contributed to projects including the Global AI Narratives Project at Cambridge and the Ethics of Digitalization program at the Berkman Klein Center at Harvard. He regularly advises government, NGOs, and industry on responsible AI and is a frequent media commentator.

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