

ICA | VIRTUAL | AI Week

9-11 June 2026 | Virtual Event

SPEAKER Q&A



Laura Fuhr
Team Leader
Acquarius Trust

Q How is the role of AI currently affecting your role and organisation?

A AI is already changing how we work daily - particularly in areas such as onboarding, KYC review, document analysis, policy management, and drafting governance records. In my organisation, the focus has been on treating AI as a structured extension of the teams, not a shortcut, that means investing heavily in human skills: safe prompting, critical evaluation, and knowing when not to rely on AI. The technology is powerful, but its value depends entirely on the quality of the people and processes around it.

Q Why do you think this event is so important?

A ICA AI Week is important because it moves the conversation beyond whether AI should be used to how it should be used responsibly. Many teams are experimenting with AI, but without shared standards, governance models, or even a common language around risk. This event helps practitioners understand not just the opportunity, but their responsibility - particularly around explainability, accountability, and regulatory defensibility. That's essential if AI is to be embedded sustainably in business.

Q Why do you think this event being attended by a global audience is so important?

A Risk doesn't stop at borders, and neither does AI. A global audience brings together multiple regulatory perspectives, maturity levels, and risk tolerances - all of which are vital when considering how AI tools will be interpreted by different regulators worldwide. Sharing cross-boarder experiences helps avoid siloed thinking and encourages the development of more robust, internationally defensible approaches to AI governance in the workplace.

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Daniel Smith
Group Chief Compliance Officer
Ballinger & Co

Q What are you hoping to get out of the event and why do you encourage others to attend?

A I'm hoping the event creates a practical conversation about how firms can move beyond excitement or fear and towards proper governance. AI is not going away any time soon but neither are regulatory expectations, accountability or the need for professional judgement. The compliance teams are at the forefront of the issues.

I would encourage anyone to attend because this is exactly the time for compliance, risk and senior management teams to build confidence in asking better questions before AI is imposed on us. The event isn't about the technical questions around model design and data science we are discussing the important governance questions that help organisations make better decisions.

Q If you've spoken at or attended an ICA event before, how was your experience overall?

A What I value about all ICA events is that they bring together likeminded people who understand that compliance is not just about interpreting rules and writing policies. It is about helping organisations make better decisions in complex environments where there is often a lot of imperfect information, significant commercial pressure and changing regulatory expectations.

Q Which session/s will you be speaking on, and why is this topic so important currently?

A "From AI First to Risk First: A practical governance framework for leaders"

I think this is an important topic because a lot of organisations are now moving very quickly from interest in AI to active implementation, but in some cases that is happening before there has been enough thought about the purpose, the accountability and the risk. There is a significant difference between using AI because it solves a defined problem and using it because there is pressure to show that the organisation is doing something innovative.

I firmly believe that the starting point has to be risk first. That does not mean being negative about AI or slowing everything down unnecessarily. It means firms need to be clear about what they are trying to achieve, what decisions (if any) AI is supporting, where the limitations of use are, who remains accountable and what evidence the firm would rely on if challenged by a board, regulator or auditor. In regulated firms, AI should support judgement and not replace it and that principle needs to sit at the centre of any governance framework.

Q Why do you think this event being attended by a global audience is so important?

A A global audience is important because AI risk does not sit within one jurisdiction and AI has shortcomings that can be directly discriminating. The technology is global and the vendors are often global. The operational impact can cross borders very quickly and at the same time, firms are dealing with different regulatory regimes, different supervisory expectations and different levels of maturity in how AI governance is being developed.

AI's global nature makes international discussion extremely valuable as we can learn a lot from how different markets are approaching accountability, explainability, outsourcing, data quality, model risk and senior management responsibility. We can gain insight into the AI topics although regulatory language may differ from country to country, many of the underlying questions are extremely similar.

I see the same questions coming from all over the world: can the firm explain what the AI is doing? Can it evidence that the system is working properly? Can it identify harm or poor outcomes? Can it intervene when something goes wrong? Can senior management show that they understood the risk and had appropriate controls in place? These questions are relevant globally.



Irene Popoff Possolo
Regulatory & Conduct Specialist
Freelance

Q Why do you think this event being attended by a global audience is so important?

A A global audience makes the discussion much richer because these issues are not confined to one sector or one jurisdiction. Different markets are approaching AI governance in slightly different ways, but the underlying questions are the same: how do we stay innovative, accountable and trusted? Sharing those perspectives helps everyone learn faster and avoid reinventing the wheel.

Q How is the role of AI currently affecting your role and organisation?

A AI is definitely changing the conversation in my world, particularly around risk, governance and control design. It is pushing us to think more carefully about prompting, escalation, documentation and how we maintain clear accountability when tools are doing more of the heavy lifting. I see it less as a replacement for expertise and more as a test of whether our processes and judgement are strong enough to use it safely.

Q What are you hoping to get out of the event and why do you encourage others to attend?

A I'm hoping to hear how other people are handling the very practical side of AI adoption — not just the strategy, but the workflows, controls and human skills that make it work. I'd encourage others to attend because the most useful conversations are often the ones that connect technical capability with real-world governance. That is where you get ideas you can actually take back and use.

Q Which session/s will you be speaking on, and why is this topic so important currently?

A I'll be speaking on the session exploring why human expertise still matters so much, even as AI becomes more capable. The topic feels especially timely because the question is no longer whether AI can produce outputs quickly, but whether those outputs are reliable, explainable and genuinely useful in real-world compliance and governance settings. What really makes the difference is the combination of safe prompting, strong processes and professional judgement - because without those, AI can just as easily introduce new risks as it can create value.

Q If you've spoken at or attended an ICA event before, how was your experience overall?

A I've attended many ICA sessions over the years, and I always find them extremely valuable. They are consistently informative, insightful and thought provoking, and I've often taken ideas away that have helped me reflect on and strengthen my own practice. What I appreciate most is that the sessions are not just interesting in the moment - they tend to spark thinking that stays with you and can be brought back into the organisation in a practical way.



Alina Unguru
Data Privacy Expert
Allianz Services Romania

Q Why do you think this event is so important?

A There is a lot of movement right now. A lot of change. A lot of speed. Events like this create a pause inside that movement. They give us the opportunity to step back, to listen, and to reconnect with what truly matters in our work: from efficiency to responsibility, from automation, to awareness. They also help organizations think more consciously about how to protect and grow human capability; how to avoid losing critical skills, how to build literacy, and how to define new roles in a world where AI becomes part of everyday work. Clarity does not come from doing more. It comes from understanding better.

Q I will be speaking on “The human touch in compliance: What happens now?”

A We are living in a moment where technology is moving quickly, sometimes faster than we pause to understand it. In compliance, this creates both opportunity and responsibility.

As automation scales across compliance and financial crime prevention, we are reminded of something important: human oversight, critical thinking, and contextual judgment are not optional. They are essential.

AI can guide us, but it does not carry responsibility. People do. For me, this topic is about staying present in the change, and making sure that, while we benefit from efficiency, we continue to bring meaning, ethics, and awareness into every decision we make.

Q What are you hoping to get out of the event and why do you encourage others to attend?

A I am looking forward to meaningful conversations. Not only about what AI can do, but about how we, as professionals and organizations, choose to work with it. How we maintain human oversight, how we grow our capabilities, and how we shape roles that are meaningful in this new context.

I encourage everyone to attend because this is not just about technology. It is about understanding our place in a changing landscape, and making conscious choices about how we move forward.

Q How is the role of AI currently affecting your role and organization?

A AI is changing the rhythm of how we work. Some processes become faster and more efficient, which creates space. But what we do with that space becomes essential.

In my role, I see a shift from execution to interpretation, from processing to decision-making. The more we automate, the more important it becomes to understand context, challenge outputs, and stay connected to the bigger picture.

It should raise practical questions for organizations. How do we evolve skillsets? How do we redeploy people meaningfully? How do we ensure that human expertise continues to be valued alongside AI?

These are not future questions. They are already here, changing the tempo.