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He is Managing Director of the "Digital Society Initiative" (DSI) and Research Group Leader at the Institute of Biomedical Ethics and History of Medicine of the University of Zurich. He received is MSc in philosophy, physics, mathematics and biology at the University of Berne, his PhD in neuroinformatics at the Federal Institute of Technology in Zurich and his habilitation in biomedical ethics at the University of Zurich. He was predoctoral fellow at the Max-Planck Institute of the History of Science in Berlin, postdoctoral researcher at the Graduate Program of Interdisciplinary Ethics Research of the URPP Ethics, fellow of the NEH Institute for Advanced Topics in the Digital Humanities, University of Charlotte (NC, USA), Visiting Scholar at the Psychology Department of the University of Notre Dame (IN, USA) and the Philosophy Department of the University of Oregon.

His research interests are in empirical ethics, neuroethics, ICT ethics and data analysis methodologies. He has published more than 100 contributions in various fields (ethics, complexity science, and neuroscience). He is coordinator of the Horizon 2020 Project CANVAS on ethics and cybersecurity and he is PI of several research projects related to information technology and ethics.

In addition to his academic career, he has many years of experience in project management, public relations, and science journalists working for Swiss communication and consulting firms, press and electronic media and investment boutiques. As business owner (BraInform), he works for clients as the Federal Office of Public Health, the National Advisory Commission on Biomedical Ethics, and the Swiss Centre for Technology Assessment. He was member of the submission team of the EU Flagship proposal "FuturICT", Focus Area Ethics.