

Dr Zena Assaad completed a Bachelors Degree and PhD in Aerospace Engineering. She is currently a senior research fellow in the School of Engineering at the Australian National University and is also a Trusted Autonomous Systems fellow and an Australian Army Research Centre fellow. Her research explores the safety of human-machine teaming and assurance of robotics, autonomous systems and AI. Dr Assaad is also the founder and chair of the Australian national community of practice for UAS and AAM research. Dr Assaad received the 2023 Asia Pacific Women in AI Award for Defence and Intelligence and was named one of the "100 Brilliant women in AI Ethics" for 2023 as a result of her work around safety and assurance of AI. She is also the co-host and co-producer of the Algorithmic Futures podcast, which explores the work needed to successfully design technology and policy for an uncertain future.