

DR KATE BARKER

Keynote Speaking Brief

Advisor to heads of state, boards and global chief executives on AI transformation, policy and the psychology of leadership. Board advisor, author and keynote speaker at the world's leading forums.

DR KATE BARKER · BOARD ADVISOR · CHIEF
FUTURIST · AUTHOR · KEYNOTE SPEAKER



THE ARGUMENT

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The advantage in the AI era does not go to whoever adopts it fastest. It goes to the leaders who can still **think clearly when the machine sounds certain.**

Every institution is being told to adopt AI faster. Few are asking what it quietly costs them, the judgement, conviction and trust on which good decisions still rest and which no system can manufacture. That erosion, not the pace of adoption, is what these sessions are built to confront.

DR KATE BARKER · HIDDEN POWER

About Dr Kate Barker

Dr Kate Barker is the executive advisor the advisors call. She counsels heads of state, boards and global chief executives on AI transformation, policy and the psychology of leadership. A TIME100 AI Impact Award honouree and the world's No.1 Chief Futurist, she has helped shape some of the world's most transformative megaprojects, with work spanning sovereign programmes, governments and over one hundred Fortune 500 companies, from the Gulf to Europe, Asia and North America.

BY THE NUMBERS

100+ Fortune 500 companies advised

6,000 executive leaders in her doctoral research

4 regions: the Gulf, Europe, Asia and North America

SELECTED PLATFORMS

- World Economic Forum, Davos
- United Nations Global Futures Forum
- Bloomberg New Economy Forum
- Fortune Global Forum
- OECD Policy Forum, Paris
- World Government Summit, Abu Dhabi
- PIF Leadership Forum, Riyadh
- NEOM Leadership Summit
- MIT Future of Work Symposium
- BRICS Urban Future Forum, Moscow
- VISION 2051 Summit, St Petersburg



Signature Keynotes

A range of keynotes for boards, governments, executive teams and global forums, each available as a mainstage talk, a board retreat or a fireside conversation.

1 **The AI Performance Advantage**

Why the gain goes not to whoever adopts AI fastest but to whoever stays clearest about which judgements to keep human.

2 **Agentic AI and the Accountability Gap**

What a board is really approving when it lets a system act on its own, and where accountability sits once it does.

3 **When AI Joins the Executive Team**

How authority quietly redistributes when a machine is in the room, and what a leader must still own when the model has already answered.

4 **The Human Side of AI**

What leaders quietly surrender, often without deciding to, as intelligent systems absorb the work that used to be theirs.

5 **The New Psychology of Work**

How belief, status and trust shift inside an organisation once the most confident voice in the room is a model.

6 **The 2050 Briefing**

Where power, capability and institutional trust settle once a generation of decisions has been made with the machine rather than by it.

7 **The Human Premium**

Why distinctly human capability becomes an organisation's scarcest advantage as AI commoditises the rest, and the skills, mindsets and workforce policies that build the talent no machine can replace, before the gaps become irreversible.

The Cognitive Advantage

The individual-leader diagnostic at the centre of Dr Kate Barker's practice, the Executive Cognitive Advantage Index maps the intersection of the human capabilities that decide performance as AI scales, across five dimensions.

01 / 05

Judgement & Discernment

Interpreting context, challenging assumptions and deciding well when AI's answers sound persuasive.

02 / 05

Cognitive Agency

Staying an active thinker and decision owner, rather than passively accepting the machine's recommendation.

03 / 05

Relationship Capital

The influence, trust and relational intelligence across the senior team that AI cannot automate but can erode.

04 / 05

Executive Alignment & Challenge

Whether the team disagrees productively and surfaces the tension that needs naming, or only performs alignment.

05 / 05

Human + AI Decision Performance

Whether AI is improving the quality and accountability of decisions, or merely making them faster.

INSTITUTION COMPANION

The Board AI Index maps board AI readiness, decision accountability and oversight across five ascending levels, **Reactive, Alert, Architecting, Owned, Integrated**. Both are set out in *Hidden Power* and applied across board, executive and sovereign engagements.

Outcomes & Endorsements

Capability is becoming abundant. Judgement is becoming rare. The advantage belongs to whoever can still close the gap between them.

DR KATE BARKER · HIDDEN POWER

SELECTED OUTCOMES

Built the future-of-work and AI strategy for NEOM, the \$2 trillion future city, benchmarking more than four hundred global organisations to shape it.

Reshaped AI and workforce strategy for national populations of twenty million, advising at sovereign level across the Gulf.

ENDORSEMENTS

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We brought Kate in for a view on AI strategy and left with something rarer, a clear map of where the power in our business was actually moving, and what the board still had to own. She can sit with our engineers and with our directors and change how both think in the same afternoon.

GLOBAL CEO, TECHNOLOGY

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Kate moved our conversation about AI from how fast to adopt it to who would control it, and that single shift changed where we invested and where we held back. Her judgement carries the same weight in a boardroom as it does in a room of heads of state.

CHAIR, INVESTMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE



Executive Sessions & How to Engage

01

Behind Closed Doors

A confidential, agenda-led session for boards, chief executives and senior teams navigating decisions that carry consequence, designed for the questions that cannot be asked on stage.

02

Hidden Power, the author keynote

Drawn from the book, on the human capabilities organisations sharpen, weaken or surrender as AI becomes embedded in decision-making, leadership and work.

FORMATS



Mainstage
keynote



Board
retreat



Fireside
conversation



Executive
offsite



Closed-door
session



Leadership
masterclass

CONTACT

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Speaking fees and availability on request.

Charlie Reid

SPEAKING & MEDIA ENQUIRIES

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