

MEDICAL EXCELLENCE: INNOVATION TRANSFER IN SWITZERLAND

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 4, 2026, AURA ZÜRICH



Prof. Dr. Effy Vayena

Vice President for Knowledge Transfer and Corporate Relations, ETH Zurich

Session 1

Successes and Challenges of Innovation Transfer

○ Discussion Round

Effy Vayena is Vice President for Knowledge Transfer and Corporate Relations and Full Professor of Bioethics at ETH Zurich. Internationally recognized for her work on the governance of digital technologies, artificial intelligence, health data, and other emerging technologies, she is also the founder and director of the Health Ethics and Policy Lab, an interdisciplinary research group that brings together expertise from the social sciences, ethics, law, engineering, and the life sciences to address the challenges and opportunities posed by technological innovation. Her research examines how advances in biomedicine, data analytics, and AI can be developed and deployed responsibly to maximize societal benefit while safeguarding fundamental ethical values.

Vayena has held appointments at Harvard University's Berkman Klein Center for Internet & Society, where she was a Fellow and later Faculty Associate, and previously served as Associate Vice President for Digital Transformation and Governance at ETH Zurich. She has co-chaired the World Health Organization's Expert Advisory Group on Artificial Intelligence, Health Ethics and Governance and is an elected member of the Swiss Academy of Medical Sciences. She also serves on the Advisory Board for the World Economic Forum's Global Risks Report.

A recipient of numerous awards and distinctions, Vayena has published more than 400 peer-reviewed articles and book chapters and co-edited several books. She regularly advises governments, international organizations, and public and private sector leaders on issues related to digitalization, artificial intelligence, and the responsible governance of emerging technologies.