

Yves Moreau, Full Professor, University of Leuven, Belgium



Yves Moreau is a professor of engineering at the University of Leuven, Belgium. He develops artificial intelligence applications for the analysis of DNA in disease diagnosis and drug discovery, designing algorithms for large-scale data analyses that safeguard privacy. He is a leading advocate for ethical responsibilities of scientists and corporations in handling sensitive genetic data, warning about the global risks of misuse of DNA data collected in big databases as a form of mass surveillance.

He is also a tech innovator with a focus on identifying relevant business models for emerging technologies and developing projects up to the precompetitive stage and the startup of university spin-offs. He was a co-founder of Data4S, a data mining company specialized in fraud detection and anti-moneylaundering, now part of BAE Systems. He was also a co-founder of Cartagena, specialized in ICT solutions for clinical genetic diagnosis, now part of Agilent Technologies.

His advocacy and research have contributed to highlighting the need for privacy-preserving methods for clinical genetics and influenced ethical practices in genomics. His work has been featured in international media, including the New York Times, the Guardian and the BBC. Moreau was elected as a Fellow of the International Society for Computational Biology in 2018 and received the 2023 Einstein Foundation Individual Award for his commitment to ethical standards in human DNA research. In 2025, he was conferred a doctorate honoris causa in science and technology by the Université Catholique de Louvain, Belgium.