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Prior to joining IBM, she worked on semantic question answering at the Knowledge Media Institute (KMi) of The Open University, where she obtained her PhD, and was also a trainee at the European Space Agency (ESA). She holds an MSc in Computer Engineering from the Universidad Politécnica de Madrid.

Vanessa has served on numerous organizational and program committees and has co-authored ~150 publications in leading AI conferences and journals, including *Nature Communications* and *Scientific Reports*, with over 5,200 citations.