

# Progress in Crowd Science: A Dissenting Voice

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## ABOUT THE TALK :

Crowd science has made significant progress in recent decades, particularly in areas such as modeling, surveillance, and real-time monitoring. However, many foundational assumptions in the field have remained largely unchallenged.

This talk offers a critical reflection on the direction of progress of crowd science, questioning whether certain trends have prioritized technical solutions over a deeper understanding of human behavior and systemic vulnerabilities. Drawing from recent crowd related disasters and emerging research, the talk highlights how existing , risk models, and crowd psychology frameworks inadequately capture the complexities of real-world scenarios. This calls for a comprehensive re-evaluation and advocates for a recalibration of the field to better align with ground realities.

## ABOUT THE SPEAKER :

Dr. Milad Haghani is an Associate Professor and Principal Fellow at the University of Melbourne, where he leads Geospatial Transport Planning at the Centre for Spatial Data Infrastructures and Land Administration. His research focuses on developing scientific approaches to mitigate the risk of preventable death and injury in urban environments. As an interdisciplinary researcher, he specialises in public safety, crowd safety, road safety, disaster resilience, and urban mobility. He is a former Australian Research Council DECRA Fellow. He is the Chair and Founder of Crowd Safety Summit, a biennial event dedicated to advancing research and best practices in crowd safety. He serves on the editorial board of *Transportation Research Part C* and has authored more than 110 scholarly publications, including articles in leading journals such as *Science* magazine. He is consistently listed among the top 0.05% of scientists globally.