Dr. Aşkın Kocabas graduated from Bogazici University's Department of Physics in Istanbul. He received his Ph.D. degree from Bilkent University in Ankara, where he worked on optics and photonics. During his Ph.D studies. Dr. Kocabas developed optical cavities to localize surface plasmons and focused on Moire surfaces to slow down and localize propagating plasmons.

After completing his Ph.D., Dr. Kocabas shifted his interest to biology. He joined Harvard University and worked on optogenetic control of animal behaviors in Sharad Ramanathan's group. He developed fast optical systems to track and stimulate moving animals. Following his postdoctoral research, he returned to Turkey and is now based at Koç University in Istanbul. His current research focuses is on interacting biological systems. He is using active matter physics to understand the complexities of these systems.