

## MASOOD AHMED

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Let me welcome you to what I hope will be an interactive discussion on technology and the social contract. The topic of the revolution in technology, is one about which we have heard different dimensions in the sessions that came before. We heard about how the health industry is being transformed through technology. We heard earlier on about how corporate social responsibility is being impacted by technology.

All of this is having an impact on what you might think of as the relationship between the individual and society and between the citizen and the state, which is another way of talking about the social contract. The question that we would like to focus on in this discussion is, how is the social contract, as we have known it, is likely to be affected by the transformation in our lives that is going to come about through the technological revolution. Is it just going to have a small change - is in the sense that the contract will be the same, but we will use technology for executing it. Or will it actually transform the nature of the contract itself? That is the topic that this panel here is ideally placed to bring to you.

I would like to start by asking the first of our speakers, Tobby Simon, to talk a little bit about how the social contract as a concept has itself evolved and how you see the introduction of technology into our lives impacting on this contract. Then we will go into specific applications of that in different dimensions from the other panellists. Then we will have a conversation in which I hope all of you will also be able to participate.