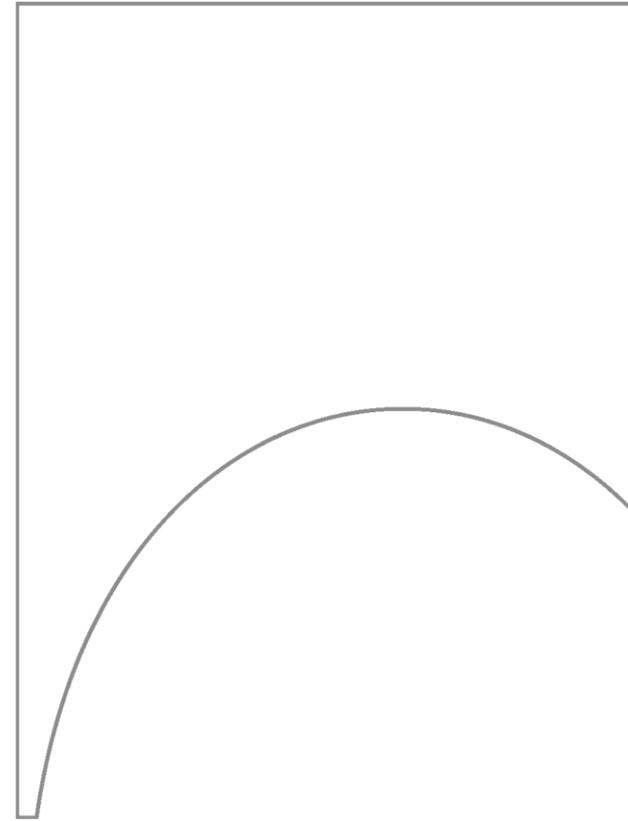


Automation

Ethical Aspects

Prof. Michael Zichy



Ethical Assessment

- Very generic: no specific scenario, action or policy, no detailed data
- No judgement, but a first appraisal

- Three fundamental moral values
 - freedom/autonomy
 - wellbeing/quality of life
 - justice/equality

- Who is affected?
 - companies
 - skilled workers
 - unskilled workers
 - developed countries
 - developing countries

Three Analytical Questions

- What are the positive and what are the negative effects on a stakeholder's freedom/autonomy?
- What are the positive and what are the negative effects on a stakeholder's wellbeing/quality of life?
- What are the positive and what are the negative effects on a stakeholder's equal opportunities?

Ethical Matrix

Ethical values	Freedom/Autonomy	Wellbeing/Quality of Life	Justice/Equality

Ethical values Affected groups	Freedom/Autonomy	Wellbeing/Quality of Life	Justice/Equality
Companies			
Skilled workers			
Unskilled workers			
Society - developed countries			
Society - developing countries			

Ethical values Affected groups	Freedom/Autonomy	Wellbeing/Quality of Life	Justice/Equality
Companies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ greater choice of work forms (humans or machines) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ reduced labor costs ▪ higher productivity 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ concentration of capital ▪ competitive disadvantages for SME/those who cannot employ/afford automation
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Conclusion

- At the moment, the harms of automation seem to outweigh its benefits
- The issue of inequality – both within and across countries – is the most pressing issue.
- Automaton cannot be stopped
- Governments must react

Recommendations

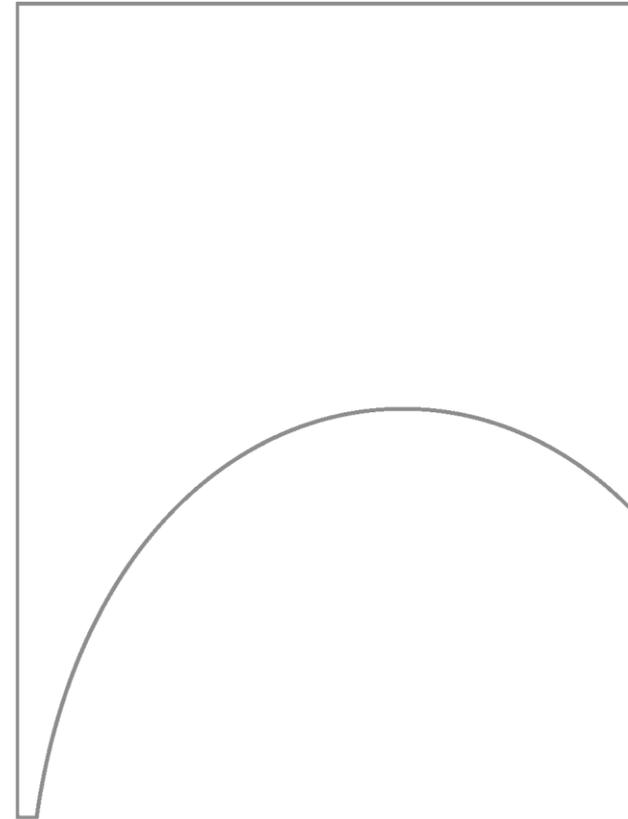
- support/protect developing countries
- invest in education: technology *and* creativity (humanities, arts and culture)
- support small and medium enterprises
- adapt taxation systems and redistribute wealth

- develop strategies for (unskilled) left-behinds
 - Provide basic living means (basic income etc.)
 - Provide meaningful activities
 - invest in social volunteering & community building
 - invest in arts & culture
 - invest in basic social education

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