Palantir Welcome

Courtney Bowman  Palantir

Good morning, everybody. I am thrilled to welcome everybody to this room today, and everybody who is watching online. Thank you for joining us for what's going to be a really dynamic day full of conversations. You'll see me here today a few times introducing a few of our speakers, uh, and to start the day, it's my pleasure to introduce one of our conference sponsors. So please welcome to the stage Courtney Bowman, Palantir's global director of privacy and civil liberties engineering. [Applause] [Music]

Hello, everyone, and welcome to TruCon 23. As the global director of privacy and civil liberties engineering at Palantir Technologies, it's an honor to address this distinguished gathering and to announce that in joining Truman's Corporate Council, we look forward to an active engagement with the thought leaders here today. Having several members of the Truman community at our company, we know how special this organization and the people who comprise it are.

Now turning briefly to a topic that I think is on many of our minds: the explosion of interest in artificial intelligence, the latest frontier of development, generative AI, and large language models in particular. It has rightfully heralded commensurate concerns about the ethical implications of technologies with massive disruptive potential. Fears range from the Doomsday extremes of super-intelligent threats to humanity to the more mundane and frankly more plausible risks of hyperscaled capacity to generate and promulgate misinformation in the form of deep fakes, false news reports, and hallucinatory texts.

To date, there have been an abundance of efforts to address the ethical implications of these socio-technical challenges. However, many such conversations have become mired in speculative fixations that arguably bear little or no resemblance to the most realistic and consequential challenges that will continue to emerge as these novel technologies are deployed in real-world settings.

Delving into these issues will require more focused discourse on the operational challenges of AI and an applied ethics for those challenges. It's in this vein that I'm pleased to share that as part of our work on AI ethics and national security, and through our Corporate Council membership with Truman, Palantir will host a series of upcoming events exclusively for Truman members. These convenings are designed to address a discrete set of focused AI policy and ethics questions related to some of the most consequential fields of application of these technologies, namely defense and national security.

Beginning with a launch event planned for later this summer and followed by a running series of working group meetings, these events will help inform our concrete findings and
recommendations to help provide practicable guidance for policymakers navigating these challenging areas of developing public policy.

We are grateful to Truman for providing this platform and are eager to work with a rich community of experts in this room. My colleagues and I at Palantir are deeply invested in ensuring that the technologies and software platforms we provide our clients in both public and private sectors reflect the values orientation of our company and our ongoing commitment to support the institutions that ensure the stability and enduring vitality of liberal democracies and open societies.

While technologies evolve and the policies that frame their use change with them, this orienting consideration should remain a guiding light for technologists, policymakers, and society at large in contemplating and planning for the emerging opportunities and the risks of increasingly powerful AI technologies in their use.

There's a question we reinforce to all employees on their first day of joining Palantir: Are we building products that contribute to a world that we want to live in? Palantir and I are here today because Truman and all of you are helping to engineer and build the world that we want to live in, and for that, we are grateful. Thank you very much, and we're looking forward to an amazing TrueCon. [Applause]