



Public Affairs Forum of India

**PAFI 7<sup>th</sup> National Forum 2020**  
**Building Trust, Charting Growth**  
Friday, October 23, 2020

**1345 – 1435 hours**

**Session 8: Global Economy- Where are we headed?**

Welcome



**T S Vishwanath**

Past President & Founding Member,  
PAFI and  
Principal Adviser, APJ-SLG Law Offices

As Principal Adviser with APJ-SLG Law Offices, he assists the Indian government on some policy and regulatory issues and advises industry on the impact of global economic and trade policies. He also writes a regular column - Trade Matters – for the Business Standard.

Vishwanath has over 20 years of experience working on policy and regulatory issues.



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## Moderator



### **Shekhar Gupta**

Editor-In-Chief & Chairman  
The Print

Shekhar Gupta is Founder and Editor-in-Chief of The Print, a digital start-up building a new editorial space of non-hyphenated liberalism, neither Left, nor Right, liberal on society, liberal on economy.

He is a prolific columnist, with the highly influential column National Interest, which is translated into seven languages. A selection of these columns were collected in the bestselling book, 'Anticipating India'.

Shekhar, a recipient of the Padma Bhushan, hosts Off the Cuff – an offering from The Print - which sees him in conversation with an eminent guest twice a month. He also hosts “Walk the Talk” on NDTV 24x7 every week. A collection of his news-making interviews has been published recently as a book ‘Walk the Talk: Decoding Politicians’

In his four-decade career, Shekhar has reported on key Indian and international events, including the Nellie massacre in Assam, Operation Blue Star, the student uprising in Tiananmen Square in Beijing, the fall of the Berlin Wall, the first Gulf War from Baghdad, the first, US-backed "jihad" in Afghanistan, and the many twists and turns in the troubled 1983-1993 decade in Sri Lanka's Tamil North.

Before this, Shekhar served as editor-in-chief of The Indian Express for 19 years and simultaneously held the position of the company's chief executive for 13 years.



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## Speaker



### **Martin Wolf**

Associate Editor &  
Chief Economics Commentator  
Financial Times

Martin Wolf is Associate Editor and Chief Economics Commentator at the Financial Times, London. He was awarded the CBE (Commander of the British Empire) in 2000 for services to financial journalism. He was a member of the UK government's Independent Commission on Banking between June 2010 and September 2011.

Mr Wolf has honorary doctorates from the London School of Economics, Nottingham University, Warwick University and Kingston University, in the UK, Macquarie University, in Australia and KU Leuven, in Belgium. He is an honorary fellow of Corpus Christ College and Nuffield College, Oxford University, and of King's College, London.

Mr Wolf won the Ludwig Erhard Prize for economic commentary for 2009 and "Commentariat of the Year 2009" at the Comment Awards, sponsored by Editorial Intelligence. He was placed 15<sup>th</sup> in *Foreign Policy's* list of the "Top 100 Global Thinkers" in December 2009 and 37<sup>th</sup> in the same list for 2010. He was joint winner of the 2009 award for columns in "giant newspapers" at the 15<sup>th</sup> annual Best in Business Journalism competition of The Society of American Business Editors and Writers, the 33<sup>rd</sup> Ischia International Journalism Prize in 2012, the Overseas Press Club of America's prize for "best commentary on international news in any medium" for 2013 and the 2019 Lifetime Achievement Award at the Gerald Loeb Awards.

Mr Wolf's most recent publication is *The Shifts and The Shocks: What we've learned – and have still to learn – from the financial crisis* (London and New York: Allen Lane, 2014).



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## Closing Remarks



### **Medha Girotra**

Managing Committee Member, PAFI &  
Director - Communications,  
South Asia, MasterCard India  
Services Private Limited

A communications and advocacy specialist with nearly two decades of experience across public policy, public diplomacy and integrated marketing communications, Medha has a deep understanding of the policy making system and related processes in the government and uses her knowledge effectively to navigate the complexities in the system. At Mastercard she works closely with the South Asia leadership to support them in achieving business and policy goals via internal and external communications.

Previously with Edelman and Genesis bcw, her clients during her consulting years included leading names in FMCG, IT/ ITES, energy and infrastructure, consumer electronics, financial services, banking & insurance, space and satellite communications, chemicals, automotive, healthcare and also the development sector. For them, she has managed regulatory affairs, policy advocacy, stakeholder outreach and legislative monitoring & research, facilitating government partnerships and issues & crisis management.

She studied Economics at Lady Sri Ram College, has a Masters in Business Administration from the International Management Institute, New Delhi and a certificate in Public Policy from the Takshashila Foundation.