From Utopia to Dystopia in 29 Short Years
Prof. Tim Berners-Lee, CSAIL/W3C, MIT

This year marks a milestone in the history of the World Wide Web: more than half of the world's population will be online. However, threats to the web are real and many; from misinformation and questionable political advertising to a loss of control over our personal data.

If a future web were to empower the hopes we had for the original web, what would it look like? A new web is possible in which people have complete control of their own data; applications and data are separated from each other; and a user's choice for each are separate. Let's assemble the brightest minds from business, technology, government, civil society, the arts and academia to build a new web which will again empower science and democracy.

Tim Berners-Lee invented the World Wide Web in 1989. He is a Professor at MIT’s Computer Science and Artificial Intelligence Lab (CSAIL). His research group, the Decentralized Information Group (DIG), works to re-decentralize the Web. He is the Director of the W3C, a Web standards organization founded in 1994, which develops interoperable technologies (specifications, guidelines, software, and tools) to lead the Web to its full potential. Tim Berners-Lee was the recipient of the A.M. Turing Award for 2016.

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