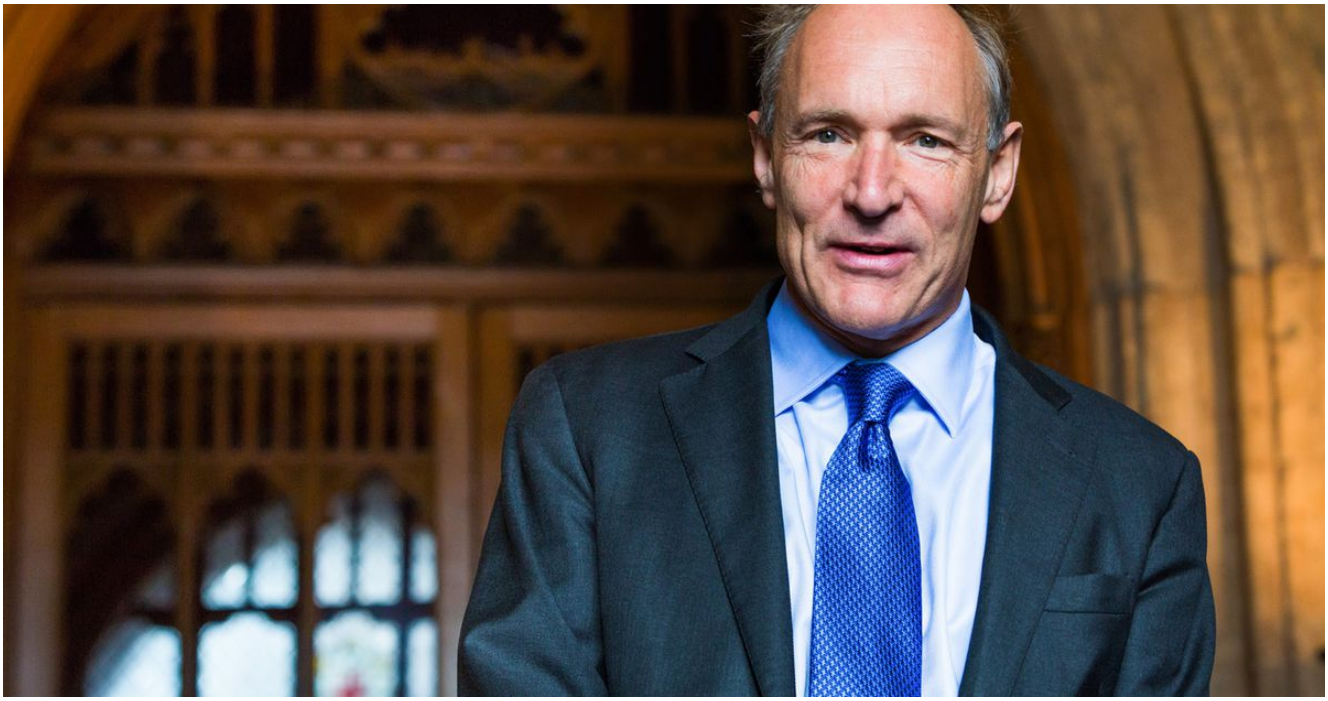
Tim Berners-Lee says we can still save the web



The World Wide Web is 30 years old tomorrow. A day earlier, its founder, English engineer and computer scientist Tim Berners-Lee, first proposed the system that would become the WWW on March 11th, 1989. To acknowledge the anniversary, he's revisited his ideas about the internet in a new letter published today.

Berners-Lee admits that the internet now has a lot of problems. Users are plagued by online harassment, state-sponsored hacks, and other criminal behavior. Ad-based revenue models reward clickbait, while there is a constant viral spread of fake news. And even though they can be rewarding, social media platforms have also become home to political outrage and polarizing conversations.

Still, Berners-Lee is hopeful about humans' and systems' capacity to improve. He says:

> *But given how much the web has changed in the past 30 years, it would be defeatist and unimaginative to assume that the*

> *web as we know it can’t be changed for the better in the next 30. If we give up on building a better web now, then the web will not have failed us. We will have failed the web.*

You can hear Berners-Lee talk more about how he sees the web — he will be speaking live tomorrow on YouTube streams provided by the European Organization of Nuclear Research (March 12th at 2:50AM ET) and the London-based Science Museum (March 12th at 1PM ET).

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