

A big year of big wins



Hello,

It's hard to believe that just over 10 years ago, Mozilla had only a handful of staff and had just shipped Firefox 1.0. Today, we've grown to more than 1,000 staff, 20,000 active community leaders and volunteers, and 1.7 million active members of our supporter community around the world – including you.

It's incredible: together we have helped create a worldwide movement of people who believe the Internet is a global public resource that belongs to all of us – not just to a powerful few. We should all have access to products and services that are independent. We should all have the right to privacy. We should all see ourselves as citizens of the Web.

This movement is growing, and so is our capacity to win. Just take a look at what we did together on the advocacy front in 2015:

- **We stood up to giant cable companies, and in February we won real protections for net neutrality in the United States.** Those companies spent huge sums lobbying Congress to try to limit what we can create, build and do online. In the end, the Federal Communications Commissioners could not ignore 3.7 million public comments in favor of net neutrality – a record-breaking outcry.
- **We won a major victory for privacy.** The USA FREEDOM Act was signed into law in June. It marked important forward progress to restore trust online, and put a stake in the ground for more needed reforms to come – not just in the U.S., but around the world.
- **We launched Mozilla's first international campaign in Germany.** In October, we asked our German-speaking community to help fight a German data retention law that put users at risk.

Together, we demanded greater oversight of surveillance activities by governments because our private communications should be private. By banding together, we helped to keep the Web open and accessible for everyone, equally.

We accomplished what seemed impossible: we stood together, took on the goliaths, and won.

Building products like Firefox and standing up for the Web are both incredibly important, but

Mozilla also believes that people need essential skills for understanding and harnessing the potential of the open Internet. Solutions to some of the world's most pressing problems are being built on the Web. The more minds we can put on those solutions, the better off we will all be. **In 2015, Mozilla invested in projects around the world to help more people harness the power of the Web:**

- **We united educators and learners on four continents.** Through our Mozilla Clubs and Hive Learning Communities, we taught the Web to thousands of learners of all ages in schools, libraries and museums.
- **We empowered Web creators.** We launched Webmaker for Android, the open-source app that allows mobile-first Web users in Bangladesh, Brazil and Indonesia to create the Web, right from their smartphones.
- **We taught critical digital skills.** Our annual Maker Party helped countless Web users learn about HTML, online privacy and more.

Mozilla has big plans on the horizon, and momentum is on our side. Even as we see threats to the Web growing – monopolies, surveillance, fear, insecurity, public apathy – there's also a flip side: a new wave of open is afoot. Makers. Open data. Internet activism. Connected devices. Open education.

Based on all we accomplished together in 2015, we know this movement is gaining steam, even more so than we thought. I can't wait to see what 2016 brings.

As always, thank you for all you do to support Mozilla – none of this would be possible without our incredible community.

Mark Surman

Executive Director, Mozilla Foundation

P.S. Our annual fundraising campaign launches soon. You can get ahead of the curve and [give right now to support our work](#). We are grateful for every gift.



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