



AMERICA 250

AI PIONEERS

Remarks by Nguyen Anh Tuan

In Honor of

DR. VINTON G. CERF

AMERICA 250: AI PIONEER · FATHER OF THE INTERNET

*Recipient, on behalf of the People of the United States,
of the World Leader for Peace and Security Award 2026*

At the Office of Dr. Vint Cerf, Google

Reston, Virginia

June 3, 2026

LOVE · CREATIVITY · NOBILITY · WISDOM

Yêu thương · Sáng tạo · Cao quý · Minh Triết

Vint — dear friend, dear colleagues.

It is a profound honor to stand here today, in the office of the man whom the world rightly calls a Father of the Internet. Half a century ago, through his work with Robert Kahn and many others, an idea began that would go on to connect nearly every human being on Earth — and even now, that work continues, reaching toward the places the network has not yet touched.



As the United States marks its two hundred and fiftieth year, the Boston Global Forum and the AI World Society chose to honor fifty individuals whose work is shaping the Age of Artificial Intelligence — not only its power, but its conscience. We call them the America 250: AI Pioneers. Fifty pioneers — like the fifty stars upon the American flag: each a single point of light, each standing for something larger than itself, and together forming a constellation by which a nation may find its way. Today we have come to honor one of those stars — and, through him, something larger still.

Vint Cerf is, with Robert Kahn, the co-designer of the TCP/IP protocols and the very architecture of the Internet. From his work at DARPA in the 1970s, to his role today as Vice President and Chief Internet Evangelist at Google, his life has followed a single thread: building the connective tissue of the modern world, and helping open its architecture to all of humanity. For this, he and Bob Kahn received the A.M. Turing Award, the National Medal of Technology, and the Presidential Medal of Freedom — the highest civilian honor the United States can bestow. He was the founding president of the Internet Society and chaired ICANN. And still he is not finished: he works to bring connectivity to the world's poorest regions, and even to design an Internet that could one day span the planets.

But these honors are not what moves me most.



What moves me most is that Vint Cerf built the first great trust infrastructure of the modern age. The Internet was, before anything else, an act of trust — a set of shared standards, open to all, owned by no one, on which strangers across the world agreed to depend. That is precisely the spirit the AI World Society now seeks to carry into the Age of Artificial Intelligence: an architecture of trust for a new and more powerful technology. No one has done more to show that such a thing is possible. He did it once already, for the Internet. His example lights our way.

And this bond is not new. In 2019, the Boston Global Forum honored Vint Cerf with the **World Leader in AI World Society Award**. That same year, he became a co-author of the **AIWS Social Contract for the AI Age** — drafted in late 2019 and formally launched in 2020 — among the founding texts of our work. Ever since, he has remained an enthusiastic contributor to the conferences and initiatives of the BGF–AIWS family.

And this is why, on this occasion, we honor Vint Cerf twice over.



Because in this, the two hundred and fiftieth year of the United States, the Boston Global Forum and the AI World Society have conferred the **World Leader for Peace and Security Award 2026** not upon a single individual, but upon **the Leaders and the People of the United States of America**: for their enduring role in upholding the international order, advancing democratic values, and serving as a beacon of human-centered artificial intelligence for the world.

A gift given to an entire people must be received by someone who embodies the best of them. And we could imagine no one more fitting than Vint Cerf — a man whose life’s work was to connect, to open, to share, and to serve; whose invention gave ordinary people a voice; and who has carried himself, across six decades, with a generosity of spirit that is itself a portrait of America at its finest. In receiving this Award on behalf of the American people, he stands for the promise that gave rise to both his nation and his life’s work: that what we build, we build for one another.



In the work of Vint Cerf I see the four values at the heart of the AI World Society. *Love*: a technology built to bring people together. *Creativity*: an architecture imagined where none had existed before. *Nobility*: the decision to build upon open standards, available to all humanity. And *Wisdom*: the understanding, carried from the Internet into the AI Age, that the things which truly endure are built upon trust.



And so, on behalf of the Boston Global Forum and the AI World Society, and in the spirit of America's two hundred and fiftieth year, it is my great honor to recognize Dr. Vinton G. Cerf as an **America 250: AI Pioneer** — one of the fifty stars — and to present, into his keeping on behalf of the People of the United States, the **World Leader for Peace and Security Award 2026**.

Vint, you taught the world how to connect. You have spent your life proving that the greatest technologies are those built in trust and given in service. The Boston Global Forum and the AI World Society are honored to stand with you, and to carry your example forward into the AI Age.

Thank you. And congratulations.

NGUYEN ANH TUAN

Co-Founder, Co-Chair & CEO, Boston Global Forum

Founder & Chief Architect, AIWS

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