



Brad Smith | Class of 1984

American attorney and technology executive, Brad Smith serves as both Vice Chairman and President of Microsoft. He helped resolve the company's antitrust controversies and spearheaded the company's work to advance privacy protection for Microsoft customers, the rights of DREAMers and other immigrants. Prior to working for Microsoft, he worked for the Washington, D.C. law firm Covington & Burling where he was the first to ask for a personal computer. The New York Times has dubbed Smith as a de facto ambassador for the technology industry.



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Speaking at the Geneva Graduate Institute in 2011, Brad Smith said "My wife and I attended [the Institute] together. . . The year we spent here was a magical year. It was a unique opportunity to broaden our perspectives. We had the opportunity to study and learn from some magnificent professors, and have our eyes opened by interacting with students from across Europe and around the world".



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Smith's work at Microsoft includes major competition law and intellectual property decisions. He has also conducted intellectual property acquisitions that still pay dividends for the company. Some of his ongoing projects are establishing the legal foundations for "the cloud" as well as his advocacy for a Digital Geneva Convention.



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Smith chairs the nonprofit Kids in Need of Defense (KIND), which he co-founded with actress Angelina Jolie in 2008. KIND provides pro bono free legal support to unaccompanied immigrant children who are facing deportation in eight of the largest US cities. It is funded by Microsoft and benefits from the support of donated hours from law firms and corporate departments across the United States.

