



Nabiha Syed is a globally recognized strategic leader in navigating technological disruption.

- **Executive Director, Mozilla Foundation (2024 - present)** — As of July 1, Nabiha lead the nonprofit that owns the Mozilla Corporation and its browser Firefox, with an explicit mandate to advocate for trustworthy AI worldwide.
- **CEO, The Markup (2020-2024)** — Promoted from General Counsel by primary investor after well-publicized founder implosion pre-launch, Nabiha launched the news technology company six months after joining. As President & CEO, Nabiha led the company’s growth from zero to 30 employees, raised \$32M, successfully negotiated the organization’s labor contract, and oversaw the company’s acquisition by CalMatters. Under her leadership, The Markup’s work spurred almost a dozen Congressional hearings, built a landmark privacy inspector tool with 13M users, and was recognized by FastCompany as a Most Innovative Company as well as a World Changing Idea.
- **Vice President and Associate General Counsel, BuzzFeed (2015-2019)** — Successfully directed litigation defense for over four dozen commercial, copyright, libel, and newsgathering lawsuits, including access to police disciplinary records in New York Supreme Court, as well as bet-the-company “Steele Dossier” libel litigations. Led cross-company security team and seconded to the data science team to build internal ethics assessment for machine learning products.
- **Associate, Levine Sullivan Koch & Schulz (2012-2015)** — Litigated libel, intellectual property, and newsgathering cases, with a special focus on emerging technologies. Represented The Guardian as part of the Edward Snowden defense. Visited Guantanamo Bay, Cuba on behalf of the New York City Bar Association, arguing for the First Amendment right of access in military tribunals.
- **First Amendment Fellow, The New York Times (2011-2012)** — Supported litigation including trademark and copyright litigation as well as state and federal freedom of information act lawsuits involving Section 215 of the PATRIOT ACT, targeted killing, and NYPD confidential sources. Vetted Pulitzer Prize-winning investigations for libel.

Boards

- **Director of The Scott Trust Limited** (British company that owns The Guardian Media Group as well as other media businesses in the UK; \$1B+ endowment) (Data Ethics Committee)
- **Advisor to the Ex/Ante venture fund**, a \$30M fund spun out of Schmidt Ventures to focus on the future of agency-enhancing technologies (“agentic tech”) with a privacy and cybersecurity focus

- **Executive Committee, New York Civil Liberties Union** (NY chapter of the ACLU)
- **Director, The New Press** (non-profit public interest publishing house)
- **Member of the “Tech Thinkers Coalition,”** convened by Luminate Foundation to provide ongoing technical and futurist expertise to President Emmanuel Macron of France

Select Speaking Engagements & Publications

Nabiha is a sought-after public speaker on issues relating to privacy, cybersecurity, and online speech. She has delivered talks to lobbying groups, corporations, cultural institutions, and philanthropies including Standard & Poor, the Association of Clinical Research Organizations, Draper Richards Kaplan (annual investor meeting), Heising-Simons Foundation, Kapor Center, Wharton, the Stanford Human-Centered Artificial Intelligence center, and the Whitney Museum of American Art. Of particular note:

- 2023 SXSW keynote with Cecile Richards, “Data Privacy After Roe v. Wade”
- World Economic Forum at Davos, “TikTok: Monitoring the Global Public Square” (2022).
- Paris Peace Forum, “Discussing the Future of Independent Journalism” (2021)
- Delivered the annual Salant Lecture at Harvard Kennedy School, entitled “Guides, not Gatekeepers” (2018).
- Obama Foundation Summit talk accompanying the Yale Law Journal article, “Real Talk About Fake News,” 127 Yale L.J. F. 337 (2017)
- Sundance Film Festival, “Cybersecurity for Documentary Filmmakers” (2015)
- Keynote at Online News Association, “Journalism in an Age of Surveillance” (2013)

Select Recognition

- Crain’s 40 Under 40 in Business (2023)
- NAACP Digital Civil Rights Icon Award (2023)
- FastCompany Most Innovative Company (2022) and World Changing Idea (2022)
- Reporter’s Committee for the Freedom of the Press Award (2016)
- Member, National Commission on U.S.-China Relations (2019)
- New York Law Journal Rising Star (2016)

Education

- Yale Law School (J.D. 2010)
- Balliol College, Oxford University (M.St. 2011)
- Johns Hopkins University (B.A. 2007)