



INDIANA UNIVERSITY BLOOMINGTON
OSTROM WORKSHOP

Presents:

The First Annual
Political Economy Program Lecture

**Social Mechanisms: An Elinor Ostrom Approach
to Political Economy**

David K. Levine

*Department of Economics and Robert Schuman Center for
Advanced Study Joint Chair at the European University Institute*



Friday, February 26, 2021: 12:00 – 1:30 pm EST

Webinar via Zoom: [Click here for link to registration page](#)

Elinor Ostrom pioneered our understanding of how groups self-organize to overcome public goods problems. A simple mathematical model that captures her ideas is that of social mechanisms, that groups optimally choose incentives to provide public goods. The public goods problem is ubiquitous in political economy as groups of voters and lobbyists vie for power, yet must overcome free-riding within their own ranks. Many new insights into voting and lobbying follow from the social mechanisms approach.

[David K. Levine](#) is an economic theorist who has worked primarily on economic dynamics both in game theory and general equilibrium theory. He is currently Department of Economics and Robert Schuman Center for Advanced Study Joint Chair at the European University Institute; he is John H. Biggs Distinguished Professor of Economics Emeritus at Washington University in St. Louis. Currently Levine is working with Rohan Dutta, Andrea Mattozzi, Salvatore Modica and others on political economy, political institutions, evolutionary models of the state, and the formation and organization of interest groups.

Ostrom Workshop
513 N. Park Ave
Bloomington, IN 47408
ostromworkshop.indiana.edu

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, all Ostrom workshop presentations will be virtual until further notice. For questions, contact Allison Sturgeon (sturgeon@iu.edu)