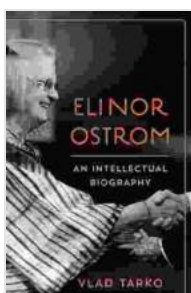


# Elinor Ostrom: An Intellectual Biography

Elinor Ostrom was an American political scientist who won the Nobel Prize in Economics in 2009 for her work on the governance of common-pool resources. She was the first woman to win the Nobel Prize in Economics, and her work has had a profound impact on the field of economics and development.



## Elinor Ostrom: An Intellectual Biography by Vlad Tarko

★★★★☆ 4.7 out of 5

Language : English  
File size : 4276 KB  
Text-to-Speech : Enabled  
Screen Reader : Supported  
Enhanced typesetting : Enabled  
Word Wise : Enabled  
Print length : 204 pages



Ostrom was born in Los Angeles, California, in 1933. Her father was a lawyer, and her mother was a schoolteacher. Ostrom attended the University of California, Los Angeles, where she earned a bachelor's degree in political science. She then went on to earn a master's degree in political science from the University of California, Berkeley, and a doctorate in political science from Indiana University.

After earning her doctorate, Ostrom taught at Indiana University for several years. In 1973, she joined the faculty of the University of California, Los Angeles, where she remained for the rest of her career. Ostrom's research

focused on the governance of common-pool resources, which are resources that are shared by multiple users. She argued that common-pool resources can be successfully managed by local communities, and she developed a set of design principles for successful common-pool resource governance.

Ostrom's work has had a major impact on the field of economics and development. Her research has shown that local communities can manage common-pool resources sustainably, and she has developed a set of principles that can be used to design successful common-pool resource governance institutions.

## ## Key Themes of Ostrom's Research

Ostrom's research focused on four key themes:

1. **The importance of local knowledge.** Ostrom argued that local communities have a wealth of knowledge about the resources they use. This knowledge is essential for developing successful common-pool resource governance institutions.
2. **The need for participation.** Ostrom argued that local communities should be involved in the design and implementation of common-pool resource governance institutions. Participation helps to ensure that the institutions are responsive to the needs of the community.
3. **The importance of monitoring and enforcement.** Ostrom argued that common-pool resource governance institutions need to be monitored and enforced to ensure that they are effective. Monitoring helps to identify problems, and enforcement helps to deter violations of the rules.
4. **The role of government.** Ostrom argued that governments can play a supportive role in common-pool resource

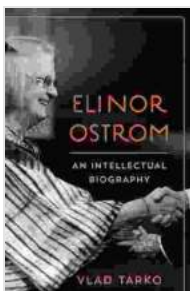
governance. Governments can provide information, technical assistance, and financial support to local communities.

## ## Ostrom's Legacy

Elinor Ostrom was a pioneering scholar whose work has had a profound impact on the field of economics and development. Her research has shown that local communities can manage common-pool resources sustainably, and she has developed a set of principles that can be used to design successful common-pool resource governance institutions. Ostrom's legacy will continue to inspire scholars and policymakers for years to come.

## ## References

\* Ostrom, E. (1990). *Governing the Commons: The Evolution of Institutions for Collective Action*. Cambridge University Press. \* Ostrom, E. (2005). *Understanding Institutional Diversity*. Princeton University Press. \* Ostrom, E. (2009). Nobel Prize Lecture: Beyond Markets and States: Polycentric Governance of Complex Economic Systems. *American Economic Review*, 99(3),641-672.



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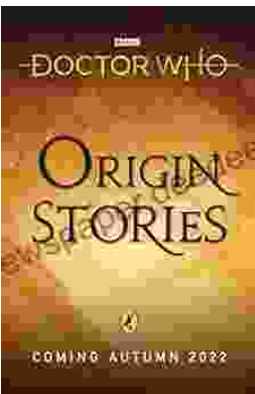
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