

Institute Lecture



Prof. Debraj Ray

New York University

Similarity, Difference, and Social Conflict



@ 6.15 pm | Friday, July 12, 2019
Venue: L16, LHC

About the talk

One of the great problems of political economy concerns the Marxian assertion of "class salience": if there is high economic inequality, then social conflict will break out along economic or class lines. While this assertion is occasionally vindicated, it is often the case that conflict occurs across economically similar, rather than economically different groups, with ethnic "markers" used as a dividing line. Such a conflict looks "non-economic," but in fact it can be deeply economic in nature. This lecture reviews the ambiguous effects of economic inequality on conflict, the importance of ethnic divisions in conflict, and the interaction between ethnicity and economics in conflict.

About the speaker

Professor Debraj Ray is Julius Silver Professor in the Faculty of Arts and Science, and Professor of Economics at the New York University. His research focuses on development economics, Microeconomic Theory, Income Distribution, Inequality and Polarization and Game Theory. He is a Fellow of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, the Econometric Society, and a Guggenheim Fellow. He holds an honorary degree from the University of Oslo. Professor Ray is currently the Co-Editor of the American Economic Review and has served on the editorial boards of many renowned journals including Econometrica, Journal of Economic Theory, Journal of Development Economics and American Economic Journal-Microeconomics. Ray's textbook, Development Economics (Princeton University Press) was described by the Chronicle of Higher Education as "a revolutionary textbook that takes the field by storm."

All are invited to attend

Dean of Research and Development