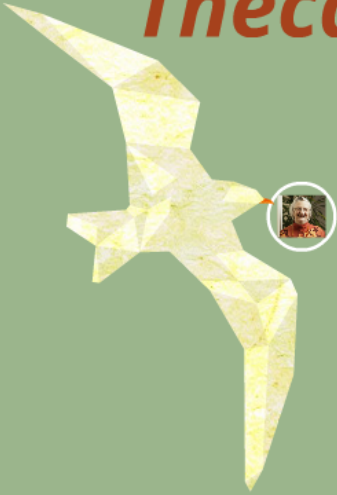


**Thought Leader Interview: Elinor  
Ostrom**  
*Thecasesolutions.com*



# Thought Leader Interview: Elinor Ostrom

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# *Political Analyst and Economist*

Elinor Ostrom was a founding member of the Vincent and Elinor Ostrom Workshop in Political Theory and Policy Analysis at Indiana University.

She awarded the Workshop with all of her winnings from the Nobel Prize in 2009.

Many Economists were upset that she won because she did not even have a degree in Economics, but political science.

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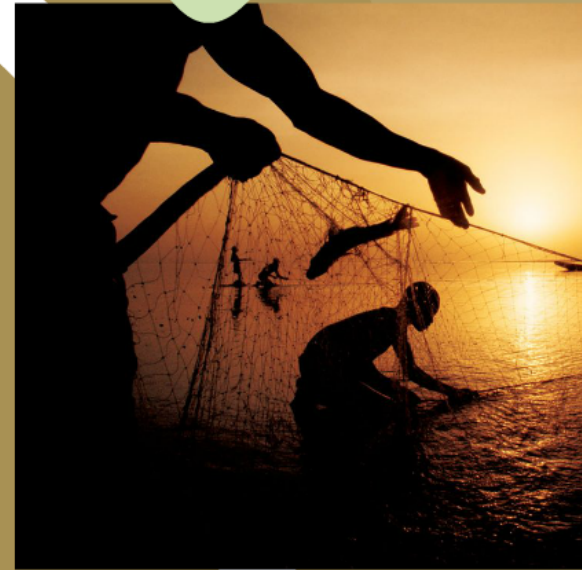


## *Research*

Ostrom studied who was better at maintaining natural resources which she called CPRs (common pool resources)

She compared Government regulation and Privatized regulation only to determine a system built upon her 8 guidelines.

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# *Governing the Commons*

Ostrom's 1990 book explores what could happen if smaller communities controlled the natural resources instead of large entities with total control.

Ostrom's research was revolutionary from the way many economists studied

She looked at success stories that proved her ideas and then discerned what else could be learned

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# GOVERNING the COMMONS



ELINOR OSTROM

The Evolution of Institutions  
for Collective Action

2009  
Nobel Prize  
Winner

Political Economy  
of Institutions and Decisions

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- Define clear group boundaries
- Align rules governing use of common goods to local needs and conditions
- Ensure that those affected by the rules can also be a part in modifying them
- Ensure outside authorities respect the rule-making rights of community members
- Develop a system to monitor member behavior which should be carried out by community leaders
- Use graduated sanctions for rule violators
- Allow for easy and cheap dispute resolution
- Place responsibility for governing the common resource in the lowest group which will then be shifted to the remainder of the network

# *Legacy*

## **Thecasesolutions.com**

Ostrom reintroduced the debate for how our natural resources are governed. Many groups cite her work in evidence for non-governmental intervention of important resources.

She still remains the only woman to have won a Nobel Prize in Economics.





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