

ThRED (Virtual) Conference 2020 Program
hosted by Boston University
October 29th-October 31st 2020



Theoretical Research in Development Economics is proud to announce its first online conference, to be held on October 29-October 31, 2020, hosted by Boston University and the Institute for Economic Development.

The conference will stream on Zoom. Please register [here](#) for the conference before October 23, 2020. You can find the conference program below.

October 29

<i>Time (EST)</i>	<i>Presentation</i>	<i>Authors (Presenter)</i>
SESSION ONE Chair: Dilip Mookherjee		
11.00.-11.45	A Stepping Stone Approach to Understanding Harmful Norms: Theory and Evidence from Somalia	Selim Gulesci, Università Bocconi; Sam Jindani, University of Cambridge; Eliana La Ferrara , Università Bocconi; David Smerdon, University of Queensland; Munshi Sulaiman, BRAC; Peyton Young, University of Oxford and LSE
11.45-12.30	Investment Decisions with Endogenous Budget Share Allocations inside the Household	Nina Buchmann, Stanford University; Pascaline Dupas, Stanford University; Roberta Ziparo , Aix-Marseille School of Economics
SESSION TWO Chair: Andy Newman		
13.00-13.45	Costly Screening and Statistical Discrimination <i>(Slides)</i>	Mogens Fosgerau, University of Copenhagen; Rajiv Sethi , Columbia University; Jorgen Weibull, Stockholm School of Economics
13.45-14.30	Diffusion of Ideas and Network Linkages <i>(Slides)</i>	Has van Vlokhoven , Stockholm University

October 30

<i>Time (EST)</i>	<i>Presentation</i>	<i>Authors (Presenter)</i>
SESSION ONE Chair: Garance Genicot		
11.00.-11.45	Network-based Hiring: Local Benefits, Global Costs	Arun Chandrasekhar, Stanford University; Melanie Morten, Stanford University; Alessandra Peter , Princeton University
11.45-12.30	Kompromat: a Theory of Blackmail as a System of Governance (<i>Slides</i>)	James Choy , Bureau of Economic Analysis
SESSION TWO Chair: Patrick Francois		
13.00-13.45	Ethnic Conflicts and the Informational Dividend of Democracy	Dominic Rohner , University of Lausanne; Jeremy Laurent-Lucchetti, University of Geneva; Mathias Thoenig, University of Lausanne
13.45-14.30	The Quran and the Sword: The Strategic Game Between Autocratic Power, the Military and the Clerics (<i>Slides</i>)	Emmanuelle Auriol, TSE; Jean-Philippe Platteau , University of Namur; Thierry Verdier, PSE

October 31

<i>Time (EST)</i>	<i>Presentation</i>	<i>Authors (Presenter)</i>
SESSION ONE Chair: Debraj Ray		
11.00.-11.45	Commitment as Extortion?	Karna Basu , Hunter College and CUNY
11.45-12.30	The Microfinance Disappointment: An Explanation based on Risk Aversion	Dagmara Celik, City University of London; Alexey Khazanov, Boston College; Omer Moav, University of Warwick and IDC; Zvika Neeman, Tel Aviv University; Hosny Zoabi , The New Economic School
SESSION TWO Chair: Maitreesh Ghatak		
13.00-13.45	Marriage Timing and Forward Contracts in Marriage Markets	Gani Aldashev , ULB and ECARES; Zaki Wahhaj, University of Kent
13.45-14.30	The Inefficient Combination: Competitive Markets, Free Entry, and Democracy (<i>Slides</i>)	Halvor Mehlum, University of Oslo; Gisle Natvik, BI Norwegian Business School; Ragnar Torvik , Norwegian University of Science and Technology