

Rokkanforelesningen 2012

vil holdes av Margaret Levi, Jere L. Bacharach Professor of International Studies,
Department of Political Science, University of Washington

Tema:

In the Interest of Others:

Leaders, Governance, and Political Activism in Membership Organizations

Why and how do some organizations expand their scope of action, especially in ways that do not appear to benefit the existing members directly and have little to do with why people joined the organization in the first place? We explore this process by investigating how some labor unions mobilize their members for causes beyond an economic focus on their own wages and working conditions. In the course of our research we also uncover evidence that participating in activist organizations can induce profound transformations in what actions the rank-and-file are willing to contemplate and their beliefs about their political efficacy.

11. oktober, kl. 14¹⁵ - 16⁰⁰
Egget, Studentsenteret



Margaret Levi (born 1947) is an American political scientist and author, noted for her work in comparative political economy, labor politics, and democratic theory, notably on the origins and effects of trustworthy government.

Levi graduated with a B.A. from Bryn Mawr College in 1968 and completed a Ph.D. degree in government at Harvard University in 1974. Since then, she has taught at the University of Washington in Seattle, where she is presently a professor of international studies in the department of political science. She has a joint appointment as Chair in US Politics at the United States Studies Centre at the University of Sydney. Levi has been a visiting professor at numerous institutions, including the Max Planck Institute, Oxford University, the European University Institute, the London School of Economics, and the Australian National University.

Levi's book *Of Rule and Revenue* (1988), a study of the institutions of state revenue production, helped pioneer rational choice approaches in comparative politics. She has since pushed rational choice analysis into new substantive areas, for example, in examining people's acceptance of military conscription in *Consent, Dissent, and Patriotism* (1997).

Levi was elected as a Fellow of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences in 2001 and was president of the American Political Science Association for 2004-05. She is the editor of the *Annual Review of Political Science*, and serves on the editorial boards of several journals, including *Politics & Society*, *Rationality and Society*, and *Political Studies*.