Biographical Sketch

Stergios Skaperdas is Professor of Economics and holds the Clifford S. Heinz Chair (on the economics of peace) at the University of California, Irvine. In July 2016 he was appointed Director of the Center for Global Peace and Conflict Studies. He received a BA in Economics from Reed College and the MA and PhD degrees, also in Economics, from the Johns Hopkins University. His research examines circumstances in which individuals and groups can make a living not just by producing and trading but also by taking – appropriating – the production of others. With that basic trade-off between production and appropriation at its core, Skaperdas has developed a theoretical framework that allows the study of a variety of economic and political problems, including those of organized crime, the emergence of states and governance, civil wars and other forms of domestic conflict, as well as the effects of globalization in the presence of insecurity. His research has been published in a variety of economics and political science journals, including the American Economic Review, the American Political Science Review, Economic Journal, the Journal of Conflict Resolution, the Journal of Economic Theory, and the Journal of International Economics.

At UC Irvine, Skaperdas is also affiliated (and has served or is currently serving in the Executive Boards) of the Center for the Study of Democracy, the Institute for Mathematical Behavioral Sciences, and the Global Peace and Conflict Studies Center. He was Research Fellow of the Center for the Study of Civil Wars at the Peace Research Institute of Oslo, Norway, is Research Fellow of the CESifo Research Network in Munich, Germany, and was affiliated with the European Union Network on Polarization and Conflict. He has consulted on the problem of civil wars and conflict for the World Bank and the World Institute for Development Economics Research/United Nations University (WIDER/UNU) in Helsinki, Finland, the Andean Development Fund (CAF) and the Center for International Development of Harvard University. His research has been supported by the National Science Foundation and by the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation.