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The International Association for the Study of the Commons



The International Association for the Study of the Commons (IASC) is the professional association dedicated to the commons since 1989 building on a concerted effort in the 1980s of scholars of different disciplines to bring together the knowledge of case studies on common property issues. The Founding President, Elinor Ostrom, received the 2009 Nobel Memorial Prize for Economic Sciences for "for her analysis of economic governance, especially the commons." Initially, the IASC focused on natural resource systems such as forests, fisheries, irrigation and pastoralism. Since the mid 2000s we have seen an

increasing diversity of application areas notably knowledge commons and urban commons. The Nobel recognition of Ostrom and the great recession led to an increased interest in commons as an alternative economic organization driven by citizens instead of the government and companies.



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