

## IHD SILVER JUBILEE LECTURE SERIES


*Silver Jubilee Lecture by*

**THOMAS POGGE**

Director of the Global Justice Program and Leitner  
Professor of Philosophy and Professor of  
Political Science, Yale University, USA



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 5.30pm–7:00pm (IST)

Venue: Multipurpose Hall, Kamaladevi Complex,  
India International Centre, Lodhi Estate, New Delhi-110003

# Human Development: Leaving No One Behind

*Thomas Pogge*

### ABSTRACT:

While the SDG *Agenda 2030* stands under the *Leave No One Behind* Motto, in the real world we are leaving billions behind, keeping them below one-tenth of the global average income and forcing them into a lifelong (often short-lived) exhausting struggle to meet the basic needs of themselves and their families.

The proximate cause of this massive failure of development are supranational structures that – negotiated among the rich and powerful – unfairly disadvantage the global poor in many ways.

These structures violate the values of all cultures. Yet they survive nonetheless because states feel that, in the merciless jungle of international rivalry, they cannot afford to subject their pursuit of power to serious moral constraints.

In this way, the problem of poverty – and that of ecology, too – is deeply tied up with the problem of ruthless state competition for power in which war is always a live option and danger.

How can we leave the IR jungle behind and make progress toward a world in which states settle their disputes through arguments and legal proceedings rather than through violence and threats thereof?