



## Hernando de Soto

**Called “the world’s greatest living economist”  
by Bill Clinton**

An author, activist and an economist known for his work on the informal economy.

## Hernando's biography

### Hernando de Soto's Background

A passionate advocate of the Institute for Liberty and Democracy (ILD), his key message surrounding the fact that a strong information framework recording property ownership and other economic information is key to a strong market [economy](#) in any nation is helping the world's small [entrepreneurs](#) to help themselves by ensuring all economic activity and legal ownership is documented.

- President of the Institute for Liberty and Democracy (ILD) in Peru
- ILD Identified as one of the top two think tanks in the world by The Economist
- Chosen by Time Magazine as one of the top five Latin American [Innovators](#) of the century in 1999, and is among the 100 most influential people in the world
- Has been awarded numerous prizes for his work and is co-chair for the World Justice Project
- Fluent in both English and Spanish for speaking commitments

## Hernando's talks

- **The Mystery of Capital: Why Capitalism Triumphs in the West and Fails Everywhere Else**
- **The Future of the World Economy**
- **Third World Economy**

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