“Foreign Banks in Developing Countries”  
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About the Speaker 
Dr. George R. G. Clarke is the BBVA Compass Bank Group Distinguished Chair of International Economics and Finance at the A. R. Sanchez, Jr. School of Business, Texas A&M International University. He is currently the editor of *The International Trade Journal* and is the interim director of the Center for the Study of Western Hemispheric Trade.

His academic research focuses on privatization and competition in banking and infrastructure and on the impact of corruption on firm performance and growth. He has published 40 papers in academic journals and books including in the *Journal of Development Economics, Journal of Public Economics, Journal of Comparative Economics, Journal of Money, Credit and Banking, and Journal of Law and Economics*. Before joining Texas A&M International University, he was a senior private sector development specialist at the World Bank. While at the World Bank, he worked in the Africa Region, the Europe and Central Asia Region, and the Development Research Group. He was also one of the core team members that wrote the *2005 World Development Report: A Better Investment Climate for Everyone*.

He received his Ph.D. in Economics from the University of Rochester and his BA in Mathematics and Economics from Cornell University.