

**Asia Society Hong Kong Center  
November 2018 Program**

**Global Health Series**

**Why Hong Kong People Live the Longest in the World**

**Luncheon Presentation by Professor Sir MICHAEL MARMOT, Director, Institute of Health Equity, University College London  
Wednesday, November 28, 2018**

Asia Society Hong Kong Center, 9 Justice Drive, Admiralty

Registration 12:15, Lunch 12:30, Close 14:00

\$500 Asia Society Members; \$650 Non-members



Hong Kong, since 2016, has the world's longest life expectancy, overtaking Japan and other developed economies. Yet in any society, there are health inequalities, with evidence indicating that economic circumstances are important but are not the only drivers of this. In developing strategies for tackling health inequalities we need to confront the social gradient in health, not just the difference between the worst off and everybody else. Policies and interventions must not be confined to the health care system; they need to address the conditions in which people are born, grow, live, work and age. **Professor Sir Michael Marmot**, Director of the Institute of Health Equity at University College London, will explain the phenomenon in Hong Kong and why - globally - tackling the health gap requires action across the whole of society.



**Professor Sir Michael Marmot** is Director of the Institute of Health Equity at University College London, and Immediate Past President of the World Medical Association. He has led research groups on health inequalities for over 40 years, and chairs the Commission on Equity and Health Inequalities in the Americas. His most famous study is to look at the residents along a train line in Glasgow. With every successive stop, the income of the local residents decline and the life expectancy declines by a year. Hence there was a big gap between the life expectancy of the people at the wealthy end of the train line and the people at the poor end of the train line. Prof. Marmot was Chair of the Commission on

Social Determinants of Health established by the World Health Organization and produced the 2008 report, *Closing the Gap in a Generation*. He is the author of *The Health Gap: the Challenge of an Unequal World* and *Status Syndrome: How Your Place on the Social Gradient Directly Affects Your Health*. At the request of the British Government, Prof. Marmot conducted the Strategic Review of Health Inequalities in England, which published its report *Fair Society, Healthy Lives* in 2010. Prof. Marmot is a member of the National Academy of Medicine, President of the British Medical Association and member of the Royal Commission on Environmental Pollution. In 2000, he was knighted for services to epidemiology and the understanding of health inequalities.

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