Ariel Rubinstein is a Professor of Economics in School of Economics at Tel Aviv University, and a Professor of Economics in New York University. He received his B.Sc. in Mathematics, Economics and Statistics from the Hebrew University in 1974 and his Ph.D. in Economics from the Hebrew University in 1979. He has written on economic theory, bounded rationality, game theory, experimental economics and choice theory.

His 1982 article Perfect Equilibrium in a Bargaining Model is one of the most fundamental works in the field of bargaining and renegotiation and the model is now known as Rubinstein Bargaining Model. His 1990 book, co-authored with Martin J Osborne, Bargaining and Markets (Academic Press) is an excellent entry point for any scholar interested in bargaining. He co-authored, with Martin J Osborne, a book A course in game theory, (MIT Press), which is one of the most popular books in game theory in the world. His 1989 article The Electronic Mail Game: Strategic Behavior Under ‘Almost Common Knowledge’ famously demonstrates that, in order to benefit the most from coordination, people need to be able to talk to each other in person rather than just exchange emails. His 1998 book Modelling Bounded Rationality (MIT Press) discusses issues of bounded memory and complexity of games, and connects them to findings in psychology. Respectively, his 2012 paper, co-authored with Jacob Glazer, A Model of Persuasion with Boundedly Rational Agents considers a practical application of bounded rationality: How to convince people to believe in your story, with the minimum amount of lies? His 2000 book Economics and Language (Cambridge University Press) provides an interesting connection between formal language of economic theory and the language that people use in the real life.

Ariel is not a typical economist. Firstly, he provides his books for free on his website. Secondly, he writes very short but complete and thought-provoking research papers. Third, he makes it interesting for students to learn economics by discussing relevant real life stories, in his books Lecture Notes in Microeconomic Theory: The Economic Agent (Princeton University Press 2005, 2012), and, co-authored with Martin J Osborne, Models of Microeconomic Theory (2020).

Ariel has received a number of awards, and was elected as a fellow to a number of societies. While the full list is available on his website, here is a sample. He was elected a member of the Israel Academy of Sciences and Humanities (1995), a Foreign Honorary Member of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences (1994) and the American Economic Association (1995). In 1985 he was elected a fellow of the Econometric Society and served as its president in 2004. He was elected as an Economic Theory Fellow in 2011, and a Fellow of Game Theory Society in 2017.

Ariel has received the Bruno Prize (2000), the Israel prize for economics (2002), the Nemmers Prize in Economics (2004), the EMET prize (2006), and the Rothschild Prize (2010).

Mikhail Safronov