Discovering methods to combat poverty and social exclusion has now become a major political challenge in Europe. This book offers an original and timely analysis of how actors at the European, national and subnational levels meet this challenge. Combining perspectives on multilevel and network coordination, the editors discuss to what extent actors join forces in these efforts and identify the factors limiting the coordination achieved in practice. The book builds on a European study comparing Germany, Italy, Poland, Sweden and the UK.

‘The book provides a valuable contribution to the analysis of anti-poverty measures and is inevitable reading for all those who are studying the phenomenon of poverty in the 21st century.’
– Filip Bojić, European Journal of Social Security

‘This book provides an extensive and comparative account of how governments go about combating poverty and social exclusion in Europe. Contributions to the volume display robust theoretical anchorage to ground the analysis of the complexities of both multi-level and multi-actor governance, while the perspectives and experiences of target groups are also assessed. Research results elicit enduring problematic aspects that are not likely to disappear when full economic recovery takes place and constitute a must-read for all those interested in how to fight social inequality.’
– Ana M. Guillén, University of Oviedo, Spain

‘The authors of this book have succeeded in developing a new and original approach to the study of combating poverty and social exclusion. Using a framework that combines insights from multi-level and network governance theory, the book analyses and compares the governance arrangements that European countries introduced in the context of active inclusion policies, and evaluates why these arrangements work or fail – an ambitious and very relevant project!’
– Rik van Berkel, Utrecht School of Governance, the Netherlands

‘The editors and authors have produced a well-researched and highly relevant book that reveals the deep complexity of the task of combating poverty in Europe.’
– Citizen's Income Newsletter