Social Policy in Changing European Societies

Research Agendas for the 21st Century

Edited by Kenneth Nelson, Full Professor of Sociology and Renée Nieuwenhuis, Associate Professor of Sociology, Swedish Institute for Social Research (SOFI), Stockholm University, Sweden and Mara A. Yerkes, Associate Professor of Interdisciplinary Social Science, Department of Interdisciplinary Social Science, Utrecht University, the Netherlands

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Adopting an interdisciplinary approach this book provides a cutting-edge, in-depth account of social policy research today, how we got here, and where future research should be headed. It defines the core research agenda for the future covering multiple social policy fields, including care, family, health, and housing policy as well as gender equality, labour market policy, and welfare attitudes.

‘As societies change, so must their social policies, and so also must the research that informs them. Social Policy in Changing European Societies: Research Agendas for the 21st Century resets the research agenda after two tumultuous decades. The perspective is comparative and multi-disciplinary, with contributors assessing current thinking about policy areas, theoretical perspectives, research methodologies, and urgent policy challenges including social care, climate change, digitalisation and international migration.’

– Sheila Shaver, Social Policy Research Centre, UNSW Sydney, Australia

‘The volume is a worthy celebration of ESPAnet’s 20th anniversary. The chapters examine two decades of research on the core elements of social policy — from healthcare to housing, from poverty to privatization, from social investment to subjective well-being, from targeting to tax credits, from decentralization to defamilization, and much more. I learned a great deal from it.’

– Lane Kenworthy, University of California, San Diego, US

‘Gathering a line-up of excellent scholars, this volume takes stock of social policy research in Europe. By mapping key themes and challenges, it explores the multiple faces of this research in an impressive manner. This volume is a must read for social policy students and practitioners in Europe and beyond.’

– Daniel Bélair, McGill University, Canada