



SPRING 2022

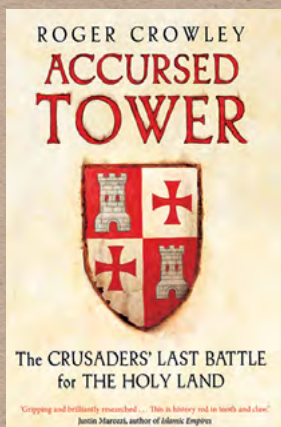
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# ACCURSED TOWER

The Fall of Acre and the End of the Crusades

by **Roger Crowley**

**Yale U.P.**, 272 p

**BESTSELLING AUTHOR**

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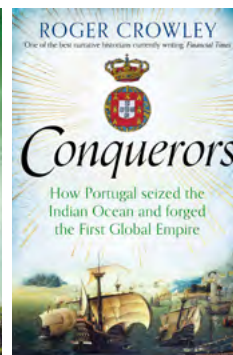
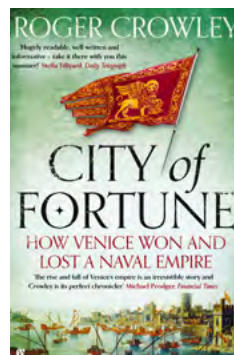
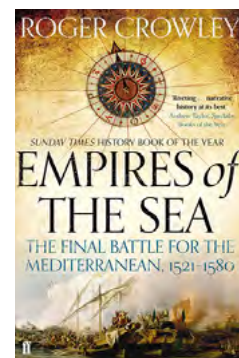
On 18 May 1291, after a desperate siege of six weeks, the city of Acre, the last crusader stronghold in the Holy Land, fell to the Mamluk army. It was the effective end to Christendom's two hundred year adventure in the realm it called Outremer. The aftershock would last for hundreds of years. Despite calls for crusade that would rumble on almost into the seventeenth century, the dream of Jerusalem died amongst the ruins of Acre.

The fall of Acre has iconic significance in crusader and medieval history. Its events are both memorable and dramatic, notable for technical advances in military planning and siege warfare, extraordinary acts of individual heroism and savage slaughter. It forms the conventional end point of complete histories of the Holy Land crusades. Acre was to all intents and purposes 'The Kingdom of Jerusalem' and its loss signalled a break point in the Middle Ages and the last significant action by the great Crusading military orders. At the time both sides were acutely aware of the finality of the outcome. 'Everything was lost,' wrote a defending eyewitness. For the Muslim counterparts it was a moment when 'the whole of Syria and the coastal zone were purified of the Franks.' It crystallised a bitter legacy for both Islam and Christianity and can claim a resonance over and beyond the drama of the event itself.

The Accursed Tower tells the vivid story of the siege through contemporary accounts – a ferocious contest, in which giant catapults brought techniques of siege warfare to a new height, that was fought to the last man and the collapse of the last tower. It also sites its significance within the longer history of the crusades and the half-century endgame that led up to the final battle.

**Roger Crowley** has worked as a teacher and publisher, and also has an undeveloped career as a poet to his name - he won a Society of Authors' Eric Gregory Award for poetry, before retiring to the safety of prose. He is the author of several bestselling narrative history books based on first-hand eyewitness account. His books have been translated in fifteen languages.

**Also, by the same author:**





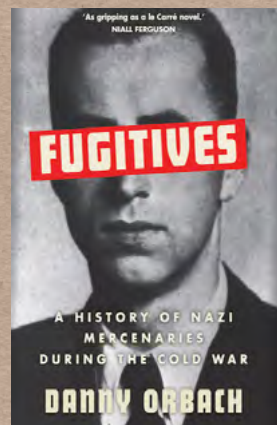
## SPEAR

Mandela and the Revolutionaries

by **Paul Landau**

**Ohio U.P.**, 372 p

**BULGARIAN, DUTCH, FINNISH,  
FRENCH, ITALIAN, NORWEGIAN,  
ROMANIAN AND SWEDISH  
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## FUGITIVES

A History of Nazi Mercenaries  
During the Cold War

by **Danny Orbach**

**Hurst**, 340 p

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A revelatory and definitive account of how Nelson Mandela led South Africa to the brink of revolution against the postwar twentieth century's most racist regime. After the 1960 Sharpeville police shootings of civilian protesters, Mandela and his comrades in the mass-resistance order of the African National Congress (ANC) and the Communist Party pioneered the use of force and formed Umkhonto we Sizwe (MK), or Spear of the Nation. A civilian-based militia, MK stockpiled weapons and waged a war of sabotage against the state with pipe bombs, Molotov cocktails, and dynamite. In response, the state passed draconian laws, militarized its police, and imprisoned its enemies without trial. Drawing from several hundred first-person accounts, Paul Landau traces Mandela's allies - and opponents - in communist, pan-Africanist, liberal, and other groups involved in escalating resistance alongside the ANC. After Mandela's capture, the Pan Africanist Congress planned to initiate street violence, and MK organized Operation Mayibuye, an uprising to be led by trained commandos. The state short-circuited those plans and subsequently jailed, exiled, tortured, and murdered revolutionaries. The era of high apartheid then began. *Spear* reshapes our understanding of Mandela by focusing on this intense but relatively neglected period of escalation in the movement against apartheid.

**Paul S. Landau** is a professor of History at the University of Maryland. His two previous books, *The Realm of the Word: Language, Gender, and Christianity in a Southern African Kingdom* and *Popular Politics in the History of South Africa* were both finalists for the African Studies Association Herskovits Prize.

In the aftermath of WWII, the victorious Allies vowed to hunt Nazi war criminals "to the ends of the earth". Yet many slipped away to the four corners of the world or were shielded by the Western Allies in exchange for cooperation. Other Nazi fugitives became freelance arms traffickers, spies and covert operators, playing a crucial role in the clandestine struggle between the superpowers. From posh German restaurants, smuggler-infested Yugoslav ports, Sauerkraut-reeking Damascene safehouses, Egyptian country clubs and fascist holdouts in Franco's Spain, Nazi spies created a chaotic network of influence and information. This network was tapped by both superpowers, as well as by the West German, French and Israeli secret services. States, governments and spy agencies attached excessive importance to Nazi agents, adding a combustible ingredient to the Cold War covert struggle.

Shrouded in government secrecy, clouded by myths and propaganda, the tangled and often paradoxical tale of these Nazi fugitives and adventurers has never been properly told - until now.

A veteran of Israeli intelligence, **Danny Orbach** is an associate professor for history and Asian studies at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem. As a historian, commentator and political blogger, he has published extensively on German, Japanese, Chinese, Israeli and Middle Eastern history, with a special focus on military resistance, disobedience, rebellions and political assassinations. He is also studying the history of espionage, intelligence and military adventurers.



# AGENT SNIPER

The Best Spy the West Ever Lost

by **Tim Tate**

**Macmillan**, 320 p

**BEST SELLING AUTHOR**

TRANSLATED IN MORE THAN **14 LANGUAGES**

**FRENCH, GERMAN AND ITALIAN RIGHTS AVAILABLE**

The thrilling never-before-told story of Agent Sniper, one of the Cold War's most effective counter-agents.

Michal Goleniewski, cover name Sniper, was one of the most important spies of the early Cold War. For almost three years, as a Lieutenant Colonel at the top of Poland's espionage service, he smuggled thousands of top-secret Soviet bloc intelligence and military documents, as well as 160 rolls of microfilm, from behind the Iron Curtain. Then, in January 1961, he abandoned his wife and children to make a dramatic defection across divided Berlin with his East German mistress to the safety of American territory. There, he exposed more than 1,600 Soviet bloc agents operating undercover in the West - more than any single spy in history.

The CIA called Goleniewski "one of the West's most valuable counterintelligence sources," but in late 1963, he was abandoned by the US government because of a split inside the agency, and over questions about his mental stability and his trustworthiness.

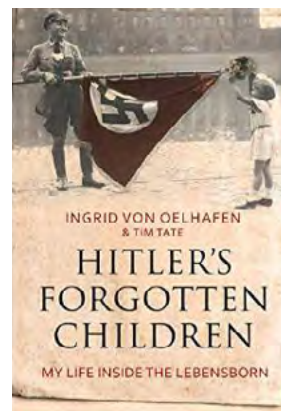
Goleniewski bears some of the blame for his troubled legacy: He made baseless assertions about his record, notably that he was the first to expose Kim Philby. He also bizarrely claimed to be Tsarevich Aleksei Romanoff, heir to the Russian Throne who had miraculously survived the 1918 massacre of his family.

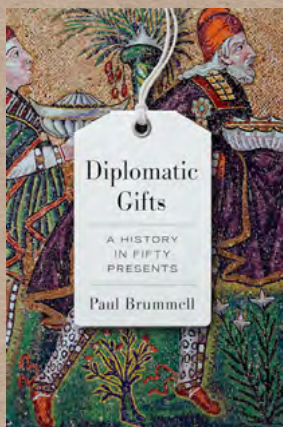
For more than fifty years, American and British intelligence services have sought to erase Goleniewski from the history of Cold War espionage.

The vast bulk of his once-substantial CIA and MI5 files remain closed. Only fragments of his material crop up in the de-classified dossiers on the KGB spies he exposed or the memoirs of CIA officers who dealt with him, but his newly-released Polish intelligence file reveals the remarkable extent of his espionage on behalf of the West.

**Tim Tate** is a multi-award winning documentary filmmaker, investigative journalist and best-selling author. Over a 30-year career he produced and directed almost 90 films for all British and US terrestrial channels. He is also the author of 13 published non-fiction books. Tate's previous book, *Hitler's forgotten children* has been translated in 14 languages.

**Also, by the same author:**





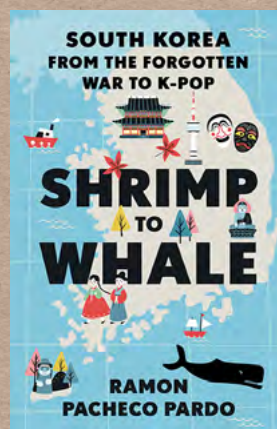
## DIPLOMATIC GIFTS

A History in Fifty Presents

by **Paul Brummell**

Hurst, 376 p

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## SHRIMP TO WHALE

South Korea from the Forgotten War to K-Pop

by **R. Pacheco Pardo**

Hurst, 280 p

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'Would Your Majesty prefer a beaver or a giraffe?'

Gifts have been part of international relations since ancient times. They can serve as tokens of friendship, apology or authority; as taunts, bribes, boasts or tricks. They can also go wrong: Mali's 2013 gift of a camel to French President François Hollande was reported to have ended up in a tagine. Exploring fifty diplomatic gifts given through the ages, Brummell explains the great complexity of this political art - an exercise in brand-building for the giver, via an item that must suit the recipient's own interests and character. Byzantine emperors sent fragments of the True Cross to fellow Christian rulers around Europe; Kings Louis XV and XVI of France used Sèvres porcelain, while the Ottoman sultans favoured robes of honour. In some cases, recipients have made no secret of the gift they would want. The Amarna Letters, dating to around 1350 BCE, record a communication from Hittite Prince Zita to the Egyptian Pharaoh, offering sixteen men - and hinting rather heavily that he would like some gold in return.

From the Trojan Horse to Cleopatra's Needle to the Statue of Liberty, this rich history offers a new take on both the curious detail and the grand spectacle of global politics.

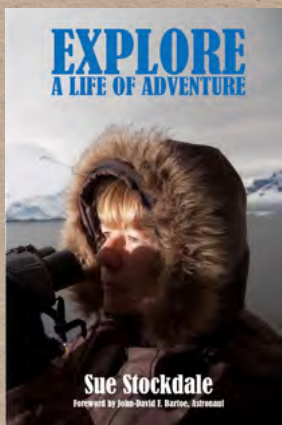
**Paul Brummell** is a British career diplomat, and currently the UK Ambassador to Latvia. His previous postings as ambassador were to Romania, Turkmenistan, Kazakhstan and Kyrgyzstan. He has also served as the UK's high commissioner to Barbados and the Eastern Caribbean.

Charts the incredible rise of South Korea, from colonisation and civil war to today's thriving nation. South Korea has a remarkable history. Born from the ashes of imperial domination, partition and a devastating war, back in the 1950s there were real doubts about its survival as an independent state. Yet South Korea endures: today it is a boisterous democracy, a vibrant market economy, a tech powerhouse, and home to the coolest of cultures. In just seventy years, this society has grown from a shrimp into a whale.

What explains this extraordinary transformation? For some, it was individual South Koreans who fought to change their country, and still strive to shape it. For others, it was forward-looking political and business leaders with a vision. Either way, it's clear that this is the story of a people who dreamt big, and whose dreams came true. Shrimp to Whale is a lively history of South Korea, from its millennia-old roots, through the division of the Peninsula, dictatorship and economic growth, to today's global powerhouse.

**Ramon Pacheco Pardo** is professor of International Relations at King's College London, and KF-VUB Korea Chair at the Brussels School of Governance. He is also a non-resident adjunct fellow with the Center for Strategic Studies Korea Chair, and a non-resident fellow at the Sejong Institute.

'A wonderful introduction to contemporary Korean history. This book shows how a small "hermit nation" has transformed into vibrant, dynamic society.' Sung-Hwan Kim, Chairman of the East Asia Foundation, former South Korean Minister of Foreign Affairs and Trade.



## EXPLORE

A life of adventure

by **Sue Stockdale**

**Albert Bridge, 202 p**

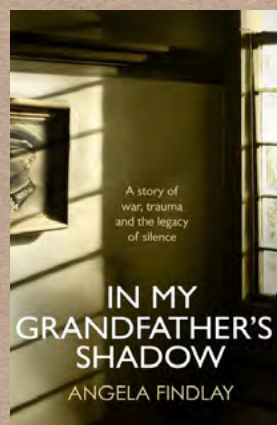
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In 1996, Sue Stockdale became the first UK woman to ski to the Magnetic North Pole. Prior to that she has never been further north than Scotland, never done any cross-country skiing and never worn the same clothes for an entire month. She realised that we are all capable of being more than we imagined possible, but often the only person stopping... is you. And from then on, Sue made it her life's work to inspire others to explore their potential.

In *Explore* Sue recounts the story of her adventures from challenging beginnings to exploring some of the world's most remote environments including North Pole, Kenya, Chile, Antarctica and Greenland. She also demonstrates how the adventurous mindset can be applied to business, explaining in her subtly humorous style, how she started up, grew and sold a business, and became a sought-after motivational speaker and executive coach working with CEO's and leaders in some of the world's top companies.

**Sue Stockdale** is an executive coach, motivational speaker, author and podcaster.

"If one is curious, then life is always energised by the pursuit of answers. Sue satisfied much of her curiosity by being a consummate physical adventurer all over the world, as you will read in this book. Her stories inspire, motivate, and enthrall in equal measure. Those who have had the pleasure to hear Sue speak, as I have, will know exactly what I mean." John-David F. Bartoe Retired astronaut, solar physicist and former Research Manager of the International Space Station



## IN MY GRANDFATHER'S SHADOW

A lost story of war, trauma and the legacy of silence

by **Angela Findlay**

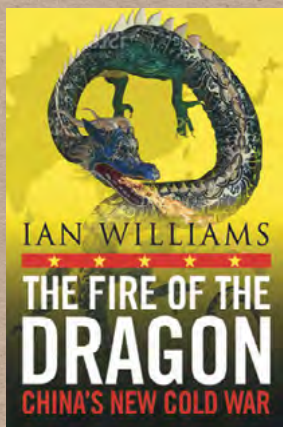
**Bantam (Penguin), 384 p**

**FRENCH, GERMAN, ITALIAN,  
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Fusing memoir, psychology and a historical detective story, and drawing on family diaries, photos, memoirs and the almost daily letters written by her Wehrmacht General grandfather from the Eastern Front, Italian theatre and later as a POW awaiting trial for Nazi war crimes, *In my Grandfather's Shadow* describes the lesser-known 'history of the losers' as well as Germany's unique post-war culture of apology and atonement.

Having wrestled for decades with an inexplicable sense of guilt, Angela Findlay eventually turned to her German roots in the hope of finding answers. There, she discovered three generations knotted together by events that took place in Nazi Germany: a grandfather who was a decorated general on the Eastern Front, his daughter and granddaughter - Angela herself. In a rare confluence of memoir, psychology and historical detective story, Findlay's unflinching quest for the truth about her grandfather breaks through the silence surrounding many the Second World War's perpetrators. The book explores the heritability of unresolved experiences, questions deeply held perceptions of good and bad, and uncovers the lesser-known history of the war's losers, a post-war culture of apology and atonement, and the lingering legacy of shame. Using her own family story to explore an episode in history that continues to appal and fascinate, Findlay reveals that it is possible not only for the scars of trauma to be handed down through generations, but also for them to be healed.

**Angela Findlay** is an artist, writer and accredited lecturer.



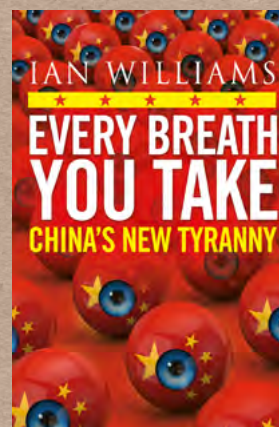
## THE FIRE OF THE DRAGON

China's new Cold War

by **Ian Williams**

**Birlinn**, 368 p

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## EVERY BREATH YOU TAKE

China's New Tyranny

by **Ian Williams**

**Birlinn**, 376 p

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Under President Xi Jinping, China's global ambitions have taken a dangerous new turn. Bullying has replaced diplomacy, and China is increasingly willing to use coercion to get its way. Trade, investment, even big-spending tourists and students have been weaponised. The Communist Party believes it is fighting an ideological war on multiple fronts and is acting with increasing belligerence and impunity. China's goal of 'recovering' Taiwan - regarded as a renegade province since the end of the civil war in 1949 - is one of the obvious flashpoints for a Third World War, but its aggressive foreign policy is playing out in multiple locations. Cambodia, the Philippines, Malaysia, Thailand and Indonesia are increasingly beholden to China; the border clash with India in 2020 was the most serious since 1962; and its neo-colonial enterprises in Africa have created ever-increasing indebtedness and dependence. Ian Williams examines how China's aggressive foreign policy is arguably the biggest threat to our security and is a problem that not just the West - but the rest of the world - ignores at its peril.

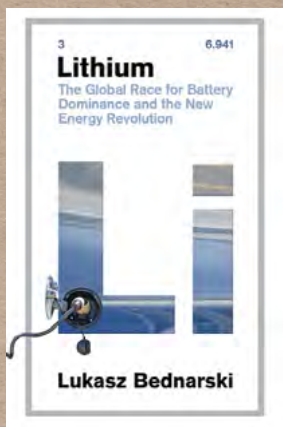
**Ian Williams** is a journalist. He wrote for the Sunday Times then moved to television, Channel 4 News and then with NBC News. For twenty-five years he was a foreign correspondent, based first in Russia and then in Hong Kong, Bangkok and Beijing. He has also covered conflicts in the Balkans, the Middle East and Ukraine. He won an Emmy and BAFTA awards for his discovery and reporting on the Serb detention camps during the war in Bosnia. He is currently a doctoral student in the War Studies department at King's College, London, focusing on cyber issues.

China is building the world's first digital totalitarian state, a system of hitherto unimaginable social and political control. Internet freedom has been eliminated and ubiquitous surveillance cameras employ the latest facial recognition technology. Through flagrant cyber espionage, it has plundered Western technology on a massive scale, bullied Western tech companies and academics (though many have been willing accomplices) and intimidated critics worldwide. In doing so, it has become a model for aspiring dictators everywhere. Ian Williams examines the extraordinary rise of the Chinese surveillance state, showing how it has been driven by the enigmatic Xi Jinping, now effectively president for life, and how it impacts the daily lives of Chinese citizens, particularly dissidents and those from ethnic minorities. Supporting interviews and first-hand accounts from those whose lives have been turned upside down or worse highlight the chilling and ruthless efficiency with which the government can now act.

The book also considers the wider implications for the rest of the world. How to deal with an increasingly strident, aggressive Beijing is one of the biggest challenges facing the West in what has become a technological Cold War.

"One of the year's most exciting releases." - The Herald

"Williams knows his stuff, as an award-winning foreign correspondent reporting for a quarter of a century from Asia with a special interest in China. This is an accessible, valuable, troubling, timely book." - Reaction



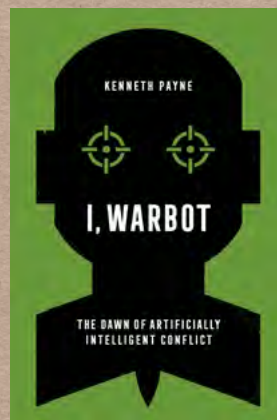
## LITHIUM

The Global Race for Battery Dominance and the New Energy Revolution

by **Lukasz Bednarski**

Hurst, 256 p

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## I, Warbot

The Dawn of Artificially Intelligent Conflict

by **Kenneth Payne**

Hurst, 336 p

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How a little-known mineral will affect our jobs and daily lives as much as, if not more than, AI or Big Data have done.

A global energy revolution is unfolding before our eyes: ever-growing numbers of electric vehicles on our roads, laptops that last all day on a single charge and solar panels on our roofs, all reliant on lithium-ion batteries. This revolution is happening at breath-taking speed, with the potential to completely transform key industries and the way we live.

For the first time in history, we can now actually store this green energy we talk so much about. Often referred to as 'the new oil', lithium allows large amounts of energy to be squeezed into a very small space. Demand is soaring, and the lithium business is full of drama: bitter rivalries, shady deals and exceptionally talented visionaries such as Elon Musk, who is building lithium battery giga-factories across the world.

This book travels from the salt lakes of the Tibetan plateau, where Chinese government-linked companies extract lithium, to Argentina, Chile and Bolivia, which hold the world's biggest resources of the mineral. It reveals superpowers' struggle to secure strategic supplies, and the astonishing efforts of lone-wolf inventors and entrepreneurs. Lithium also explores the environmental impact of lithium extraction, the limits to battery electrification, and lithium battery recycling as the way forward.

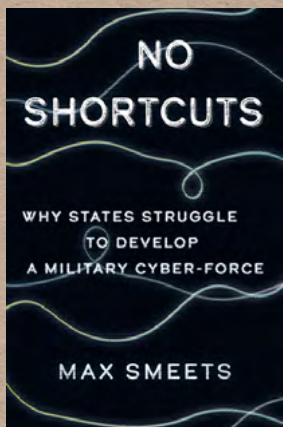
**Lukasz Bednarski** is a battery materials analyst, founder of the lithium industry portal Lithium Today and a former commodity trader.

An engrossing look at the new frontier in AI, and how it will change war forever. Artificial Intelligence is going to war. Intelligent military systems are already reshaping conflict - from the chaos of battle, with pilotless drones and robot tanks, to the headquarters far from the action, where generals and politicians use technology to weigh up what to do. AI changes how we fight, and even how likely it is that we will. Warbots will be faster, more agile and more deadly than today's crewed weapons. New tactics are already emerging, but much deeper thinking is needed. When will an intelligent machine escalate, and how might you deter it? Can robots predict the future? And what happens to the 'art of war' as machines become creative? An international campaign against 'killer robots' hopes to ban AI from conflict. But the genie is out - autonomous weapons are too useful for states to outlaw. Still, crafting sensible rules for our warbots is possible. This fascinating book shows how it might be done.

**Kenneth Payne**, a former BBC journalist, is a reader in International Relations at King's College London.

"A thought-provoking reflection on how AI will change conflict." - The Economist

"In *I, Warbot* Kenneth Payne offers creative and insightful new perspectives on the ongoing debate around the use of AI-enabled weapons systems in future war-fighting. He makes a compelling case why a ban on "killer robots" may prove to be counter-productive, and instead offers three simple but nonetheless effective rules for their use." - Franz-Stefan Gady, Research Fellow for Cyber, Space and Future Conflict, IISS



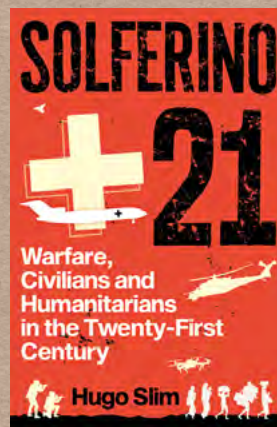
## NO SHORTCUTS

Why States Struggle to Develop a Military Cyber-Force

by **Max Smeets**

Hurst, 296 p

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## SOLFERINO 21

Warfare, Civilians and Humanitarians in the 21th Century

by **Hugo Slim**

Hurst, 328 p

FRENCH, GERMAN, ITALIAN,  
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States may be willing to launch cyber-operations, but first they must build the capacity for such attacks. Smeets examines the opportunities and obstacles in this process.

Over the past decade, numerous states have declared cyberspace as a new domain of warfare, sought to develop a military cyber strategy and establish a cyber command. These developments have led to much policy talk and concern about the future of warfare as well as the digital vulnerability of society. *No Shortcuts* provides a level-headed view of where we are in the militarization of cyberspace.

In this book, Max Smeets bridges the divide between technology and policy to assess the necessary building blocks for states to develop a military cyber capacity. Smeets argues that for many states, the barriers to entry into conflict in cyberspace are currently too high. Accompanied by a wide range of empirical examples, Smeets shows why governments' abilities to develop military cyber capabilities might change over time and explains the limits of capability transfer by states and private actors.

**Max Smeets** is a senior researcher at the Center for Security Studies, Zurich, director of the European Cyber Conflict Research Initiative and an affiliate at Stanford's Center for International Security and Cooperation. He publishes widely on cyber-statecraft, strategy and risk, including in *The Washington Post*, *War on the Rocks* and *Slate*.

A persuasive overview of conflict and aid today, calling for a major rethink of war humanitarianism to meet the new challenges of the twenty-first century.

War is at a tipping point: we're passing from the age of industrial warfare to a new era of computerised warfare, and a renewed risk of great-power conflict. Humanitarian response is also evolving fast - 'big aid' demands more and more money, while aid workers try to digitalise, preparing to meet ever-broader needs in the long, big wars and climate crisis of the future.

This book draws on the founding moment of the modern Red Cross movement - the 1859 Battle of Solferino, a moment of great change in the nature of conflict - to track the big shifts already underway, and still to come, in the wars and war aid of our century. Hugo Slim first surveys the current landscape: the tech, politics, law and strategy of warfare, and the long-term transformations ahead as conflict goes digital. He then explains how civilians both suffer and survive in today's wars, and how their world is changing. Finally, he critiques today's humanitarian system, citing the challenges of the 2020s.

Inspired by Henri Dunant's seminal humanitarian text, *Solferino 21* alerts policymakers to the coming shakeup of the military and aid professions, illuminating key priorities for the new century.

**Hugo Slim** is a senior research fellow at the Las Casas Institute for Social Justice, Blackfriars Hall, University of Oxford. He was previously a senior research fellow at the Oxford Institute for Ethics, Law and Armed Conflict, which is based at Oxford's Blavatnik School of Government.

FORTHCOMING  
SEP. 2022

## THE RISE OF THE MILITARY ENTREPRENEUR

War, Diplomacy, and Knowledge  
in Habsburg Europe

by **Suzanne Sutherland**

**Cornell U.P.**, 276 p

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## REDEMPTIVE CRIMINOLOGY

by **A. Pycroft** and  
**C. Bartollas**

**Policy Press**, 160 p

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KOREA AND TAIWAN**

*The Rise of the Military Entrepreneur* explores how a new kind of international military figure emerged from, and exploited, the seventeenth century's momentous political, military, commercial, and scientific changes. In the era of the Thirty Years' War, these figures traveled rapidly and frequently across Europe using private wealth, credit, and connections to raise and command the armies that rulers desperately needed. . Suzanne Sutherland uncovers the influence of military entrepreneurs by examining their activities as not only commanders but also diplomats, natural philosophers, information brokers, clients, and subjects on the battlefield, as well as through strategic marital and family allegiances.

Sutherland focuses on Raimondo Montecuccoli (1609–80), a middling nobleman from the Duchy of Modena, who became one of the most powerful men in the Austrian Habsburg monarchy and helped found a new discipline, military science. The book explains how Montecuccoli successfully met battlefield, court, and family responsibilities while contributing to the world of scholarship on an often violent, fragmented political-military landscape. As a result, Sutherland shifts the perspective on war away from the ruler and his court to instead examine the figures supplying force, along with their methods, networks, and reflections on those experiences.

**Suzanne Sutherland** is associate professor of History at Middle Tennessee State University. She is coeditor of *The Renaissance of Letters* and a subject editor for the digital *Routledge Encyclopedia of the Renaissance World*.

Drawing on criminology, philosophy and theology, this book develops a theory of 'redemptive criminology' for practice in criminal justice settings. The therapeutic impulse for the text is a focus on the individual practitioner's ability to embrace difference with the other, to resist harsh penal measures and to bring about change from 'the bottom up'.

By challenging concepts and practices of rehabilitation, the authors argue for the possibility of redemption and for forgiveness as the starting point. Using real-life examples and an interpretative approach, the book explores the connections between victims, perpetrators and the community. The text articulates challenges for the justice system and offers new insights into punishment and retribution.

**Aaron Pycroft** is reader in Criminal Justice and Social Complexity at the University of Portsmouth.

**Clemens Bartollas** is professor of Criminology at the University of Northern Iowa.

"This challenging and thought-provoking text breathes new life into the age-old concept of redemption. A must-read for all those seeking to expand the criminological imagination to construct and deliver more creative and humane practices." Lol Burke, Liverpool John Moores University



## THE GEOPOLITICAL ROSE

Economics, strategy and culture  
of international relationships

by **M. Musetti** and  
**L. Caracciolo**

**Paesi Edizioni**, 208 p

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## AMERICAN FASCISTS

US militias and radical parties

by **Federico Leoni**

**Paesi Edizioni**, 176 p

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In times of pandemics, new terrorist threats and global economic clashes, the term “geopolitics” is subject to repeated revisions and, in many cases, even to misuse.

How to orient oneself? In this essay Mirko Mussetti, an analyst of geopolitics and geostrategy, brings order to the study of the discipline, starting from an analysis of its branches - geoeconomics, geostrategy and geoculture - and pointing out how the lack of incisive policies in these areas is at the root of the current decline of nations.

**Mirko Mussetti** is an analyst of geopolitics and geostrategy and a Limes collaborator.

He has published *Áxeinos! Geopolitica del Mar Nero* (2018) and *Némein, L'arte della guerra economica* (2019). In 2019 he won the Voltaire Awards for Non Fiction.

QAnon conspiracy theorists, white supremacists, armed militias, radical right, icons of anger, America seen from the right is a galaxy of acronyms and extra-parliamentary political formations as unacknowledged, as active and dangerous.

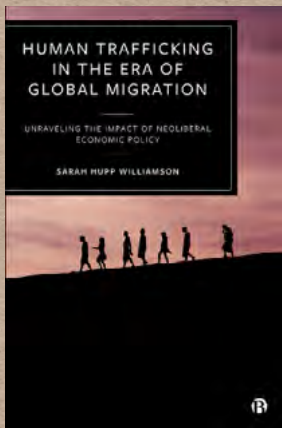
The assault of a part of them in the Congress of the United States on the morning of January 6, 2021 unveiled them in small part, shedding light just on the “Donald Trump people”. This book maps the origins of the phenomenon and explains without filters or partisanship what is happening in American society and politics,

It also contains illustrations of the symbols, logos and flags of the alt-right galaxy.

**Federico Leoni** is editor-in-chief of Sky Tg24 and an expert in US politics. He has been following US presidential elections since 2008. Co-author of *John McCain, All Maverick Wars* (Utet), he also writes fiction.

“A thoughtful, albeit highly legible book, resulting of an in-depth analysis, and offering precious tools to understand the very topical issue, of the so-called far-right, or radical American right.” Gilda Bicêtre

“Leoni’s reportage has the merit of shedding light on the dark corners of American right-wing extremism with a pacy exciting narrative formula.” Marco Di Geronimo for Flanerí Magazine



# HUMAN TRAFFICKING IN THE ERA OF GLOBAL MIGRATION

by **S. Hupp Williamson**  
**Policy**, 166 p

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# FOR A POLITICS OF THE COMMON GOOD

Conversations with Peter  
Engelmann

by **Alain Badiou**

**Passagen**, 120 p

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Factors such as inequality, gender, globalization, corruption, and instability clearly matter in human trafficking. But does corruption work the same way in Cambodia as it does in Bolivia? Does instability need to be present alongside inequality to lead to human trafficking? How do issues of migration connect?

Using migration, feminist, and criminological theory, this book asks how global economic policies contribute to the conditions which both drive migration and allow human trafficking to flourish, with specific focus on Cambodia, Bolivia, and The Gambia.

Challenging existing thinking, the book concludes with an anti-trafficking framework which addresses the root causes of human trafficking.

**Sarah Hupp Williamson** is assistant professor at the University of West Georgia.

"This book is a valuable addition to human trafficking research, demonstrating the common pathways to migration and trafficking through a cross-disciplinary theoretical framework and integrated methodology." Erin C. Heil, Southern Illinois University Edwardsville

"This book examines the intersection between globalization, inequality, and human trafficking. Through the lens of neoliberalism, the author explores trafficking patterns in countries in three regions across the globe." Alexis Aronowitz, University College Utrecht

This volume of conversations between Alain Badiou and Peter Engelmann focuses on the concrete political situation in the world of today. Here the validity and applicability of Badiou's ideas are tested in relation to the great social and political problems of our time, including terrorism, migration, the surge in support for nationalist and populist parties and the growing gap between rich and poor. Badiou argues that in the age of today's globalized capitalism, with its division of labour on a global scale and the worldwide interconnection of information through the Internet, there are no longer any national solutions.

Because nations and states lose meaning in favour of transnational corporations in globalized capitalism, resistance to capitalism must by definition be global too. Only a politics that defines itself as a politics for all and does not act in the interests of one particular group – whether a nation, religion or community of shared values – can lead the world out of the current crisis of globalized capitalism.

**Alain Badiou** is a philosopher, mathematician and novelist. He lives in Paris.

"Badiou's powerful exposition of the unfinished project of revolutionary Marxism makes a compelling case for the universality of communist politics. Elaborated with respect to pressing contemporary problems, his vision for a communist politics for us is inspiring, necessary, and possible." - Jodi Dean, Hobart and William Smith Colleges "[a] lively and engaging discussion." - Marx & Philosophy Review of Books



## COMMON GOODS

(A Short Guide to Resistance  
and a Proposal)

by **Ugo Mattei**  
**Marotta & Cafiero, 80 p**

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## POST-CORONA CAPITALISM

The Alternatives Ahead

by **Andreas Nölke**

**Policy, 266 p**

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JAPAN, KOREA AND TAIWAN**

What are common goods? Ugo Mattei, one of the leading experts in this field, tries to explain that in his book.

When were the common goods born? What is the current situation in Italy and in the world? Are they legally recognized? Why should we defend them and how? Can common goods be a tool for social relations? What is the relationship between the common goods and the environment? How do we put them at the center of the political agenda?

These are just some of the questions that Mattei answers – together with a proposal.

**Ugo Mattei** is an Italian jurist. Vice-president of the Rodotà Commission, he teaches law at the University of Turin and San Francisco. He drafted the referendum questions against the privatization of water. He is a columnist for *Il Manifesto* and collaborates with the *Fatto Quotidiano*.

The COVID-19 pandemic is a Rorschach test for society: everyone sees something different in it, and the range of political and economic responses to the crisis can leave us feeling overwhelmed.

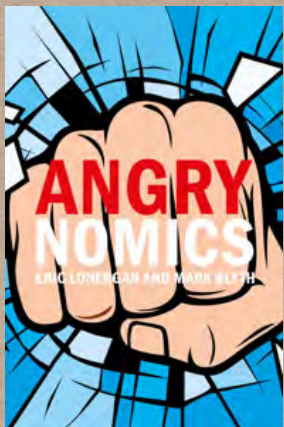
This book cuts through the confusion, dissecting the new post-coronavirus capitalism into several policy areas and spheres of action to inform academic, policy and public discourse.

Covering all the major aspects of contemporary capitalism that have been affected by the pandemic, Andreas Nölke deftly analyses the impacts of the crisis on our socio-economic and political systems. Signposting a new era for global capitalism, he offers alternatives for future economic development in the wake of COVID-19.

**Andreas Nölke** is professor of Political Science at Goethe University Frankfurt.

“Looking for a guide to the challenges facing the global economy in a post-pandemic world? This is it - clear, comprehensive and masterful. An instructive roadmap to an uncertain future.” Benjamin J. Cohen, University of California, Santa Barbara

“How should the economy be restructured post-pandemic? Nölke provides a perfect guide, masterfully outlining alternatives across many issues, while encouraging readers to choose their preferred future and work towards it.” Eric Helleiner, University of Waterloo

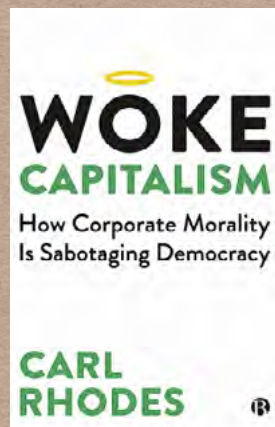


## ANGRYNOMICS

by **Eric Lonergan** and  
**Mark Blyth**

**Agenda**, 208 p

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## WOKE CAPITALISM

How Corporate Morality is  
Sabotaging Democracy

by **Carl Rhodes**

**Policy**, 240 p

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JAPAN, KOREA AND TAIWAN**

FINANCIAL TIMES **BEST BOOKS OF 2020**

**SHORTLISTED FOR THE BUSINESS BOOK AWARDS 2022**

Why are measures of stress and anxiety on the rise, when economists and politicians tell us we have never had it so good? While statistics tell us that the vast majority of people are getting steadily richer the world most of us experience day-in and day-out feels increasingly uncertain, unfair, and ever more expensive. In *Angrynomics*, Eric Lonergan and Mark Blyth explore the rising tide of anger, sometimes righteous and useful, sometimes destructive and ill-targeted, and propose radical new solutions for an increasingly polarized and confusing world. *Angrynomics* is for anyone wondering, where the hell do we go from here?

**Eric Lonergan** is a macro hedge-fund manager. He studied PPE at Oxford and has an MSc in economics and philosophy from the London School of Economics. He is also the author of *Money*.

"Everything it addresses – the causes of western democratic anger and how to fix it – has been magnified by the lockdown and the resulting economic deep freeze... This book is that rare pre-Covid-19 manuscript that has been made fortuitously more relevant by the virus... Most of us take it for granted that we live in an angry world. Their book makes an optimistic case for how we can escape it ... In recent years, the toxic sense that people are voiceless and action is futile has paralysed our democracies. *Angrynomics* is a rebuke to that 'failure of the mind'." – Ed Luce, Financial Times

"A compelling, challenging and incredibly timely book. Needs to be read." Matthew Goodwin, Sunday Times

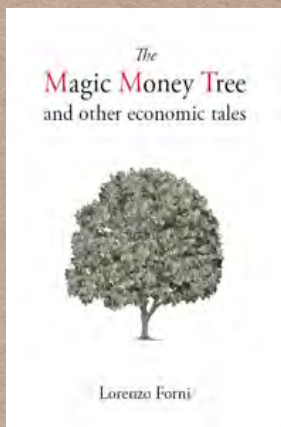
Does 'woke capitalism' improve capitalism's image or does it threaten the future of democracy?

From Nike's support for Colin Kaepernick, to Gillette's engagement with the toxic masculinity debate, the 21st century has seen a sharp increase in corporations taking over public morality, a phenomenon which has come to be known as 'woke capitalism'. Carl Rhodes takes us on a lively and fascinating history of woke capitalism – from 1950s corporate social responsibility, through 1980s neoliberalism, tracing it alongside the adoption and mutation of the term 'woke' from Black American culture – and brings us right up to current-day debates.

**Carl Rhodes** is professor of Organization Studies at the University of Technology Sydney. Rhodes regularly writes for the mainstream and independent press on issues related to ethics, politics and the economy.

By examining the political causes that woke capitalism has co-opted, and the social causes that it has not, he argues that this surreptitious extension of capitalism has serious implications for us all.

"The workplace has become politicised as never before and companies are struggling to adjust to the demands of younger consumers and employees... *Woke Capitalism* examines the history of this phenomenon - from corporate social responsibility, through neoliberalism and the debates about the topic - as well as the political causes it has adopted and the implications for all of us." Financial Times



## THE MAGIC MONEY TREE

And Other Economic Tales

by **Lorenzo Forni**

**Agenda, 184 p**

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## URGENT BUSINESS

Five Myths Business Needs  
to Overcome to Save Itself  
and the Planet

by **I. Thomson and  
D. Bates**

**Policy, 230 p**

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KOREA AND TAIWAN**

This lively and provocative look at the tension between economics and politics examines why so many mistakes in economic policy-making are made for political reasons and ignore the economic truths.

Using short-term economic gains to ensure electoral success, argues Lorenzo Forni, inevitably spells macroeconomic disaster. Using the state budget, trade policy and monetary policy to prop up labour markets and the wider economy in order to boost voter approval ratings, while ignoring budget constraints can only result in longer recessions and economic downturns. Which then can incur the painful austerity measures needed to bring the economy back into balance.

Forni looks at many unsustainable economic policies that have been implemented in parts of the world when the economic realities – there is no magic money tree! – would recommend a different and more prudent economic course.

**Lorenzo Forni** is professor of Economic Policy at the University of Padua and Head of Prometeia Associazione. He has worked at the International Monetary Fund in Washington and at the Central Bank of Italy in Rome.

“This book is about magic. Yet, the magic tricks work and are exciting only when the audience does not know what to expect. With magical economic policy-making, the audience have been conned before. This book shows that harsh economic truths are much less exciting than magic but are inescapable.” Aleh Tsyvinski, professor of Economics, Yale University

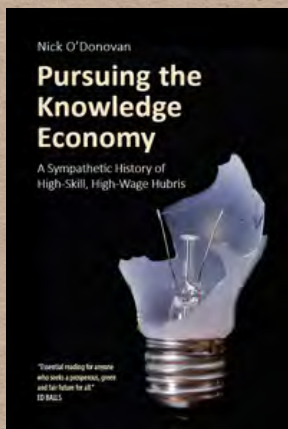
Getting business on board is essential if we want to achieve the United Nations’ goal of building a better future for people and planet by 2030. But much of the sustainable business agenda falls woefully short of what is needed, with some practices even accelerating the problems they’re trying to solve.

In *Urgent Business* Ian Thomson and Dominic Bates combine their expert insight to challenge five common myths that trap businesses in an unsustainable black-hole and offer a manifesto for change. Combining cutting-edge research – from AI and systems theory to climate science and behavioural economics – with fascinating real-world examples, the authors highlight the practical and holistic steps all businesses can take to play their part in addressing the UN Sustainable Development Goals.

**Ian Thomson** is professor of Accounting and Sustainability and Director of Lloyds Banking Group Centre for Responsible Business at the University of Birmingham. He is also Convenor of the Centre for Social and Environmental Accounting Research.

**Dominic Bates** is content writer and publication manager at Lloyds Banking Group Centre for Responsible Business, University of Birmingham. Previously he was a professional journalist and editor for two national charities, while also freelancing for The Guardian, FT and Independent.

“One of the most important, thought provoking and interesting books I’ve ever read.” Fran O’Leary, Lodestone Communications



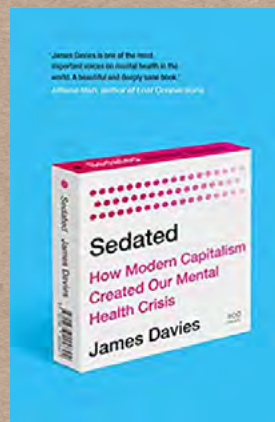
# PURSUING THE KNOWLEDGE ECONOMY

A Sympathetic History of High-Skill, High-Wage Hubris

by **Nick O'Donovan**

**Agenda, 232 p**

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# SEDATED

How Modern Capitalism Created Our Mental Health Crisis

by **James Davies**

**Atlantic Books, 400 p**

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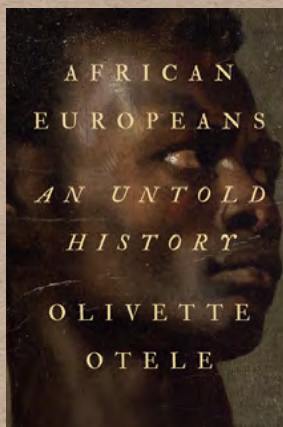
In the 1990s, the “knowledge economy” was hailed by policy-makers in developed democracies as an antidote to the anxieties arising from the era of market liberalization – an era characterized by the decline of skilled blue-collar work, increasing levels of social exclusion and widening regional inequality. The shift to knowledge-driven growth appeared to offer policymakers a way of harnessing technological progress and global economic integration for progressive purposes, and justifying progressive policies in terms of the economic benefits that they would produce. Nick O'Donovan tells the story of how the techno-optimism once associated with the rise of the knowledge economy came to be supplanted by widespread anxiety about technological progress, and how the political consensus that formed around a knowledge-driven growth agenda has unravelled, paving the way for the electoral upheavals experienced by many developed democracies in recent years. By examining the rhetoric and reality of knowledge-driven growth over the last three decades, the book highlights the flawed assumptions underpinning this policy agenda, showing how its economic shortcomings map on to patterns of political discontent. It assesses whether there is scope for rebooting this policy agenda in the Covid-19 era, or whether politicians will need to reach beyond it if they are to deliver inclusive prosperity and equitable growth in the future.

**Nick O'Donovan** is a senior lecturer in the Future Economies Research Centre at Manchester Metropolitan University.

Over 20% of our adult population takes a psychiatric drug on any given day. But good mental health outcomes are falling, while mental health disability is going up. Despite spending £18 billion annually on mental health services, things are going from bad to worse. So why are successive governments failing to act? Is it really all down to poor investment, or is there something more ominous about our whole approach to mental health that politicians are simply unwilling to confront? Since the 1980s successive governments and big business have worked to promote a new vision of mental health; one that puts at its centre a new kind of person: optimistic, extraverted, team-working and above all, economically productive - the kind of person the new economy needs and wants. As a result, our entire approach to mental health has radically altered to meet these market demands: defining ‘return-to-health’ as a ‘return-to-work’; blaming suffering on faulty minds and brains rather than on harmful social, political and work environments; while promoting highly profitable drug interventions, which, if great news for big business, are in the long-term holding millions of people back.

This book tells the story of how, by putting economic servitude before individual health, our priorities have been dramatically misplaced, and more suffering, paradoxically, has been the unhappy result.

**James Davies**, PhD in social and medical Anthropology from the University of Oxford in 2006, is also a qualified psychotherapist. He has published four academic books and has delivered talks at many universities such as Harvard, Yale, Oxford, Brown, CUNY (New York).



# AFRICAN EUROPEANS

An Untold History

by **Olivette Otele**

**Hurst**, 288 p

**SHORTLISTED FOR THE ORWELL PRIZE FOR POLITICAL WRITING 2021**

**A GUARDIAN BEST BOOK OF 2020**

**A HISTORY TODAY BOOK OF THE YEAR 2020**

**WATERSTONES BEST BOOK OF 2020**

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A dazzling history of African Europeans, revealing old and diverse links between the two continents.

As early as the third century, St Maurice - an Egyptian - became leader of the legendary Roman Theban Legion. Ever since, there have been richly varied encounters between those defined as 'Africans' and those called 'Europeans'. Yet Africans and African Europeans are still widely believed to be only a recent presence in Europe.

Olivette Otele traces a long African European heritage through the lives of individuals both ordinary and extraordinary. She uncovers a forgotten past, from Emperor Septimius Severus, to enslaved Africans living in Europe during the Renaissance, and all the way to present-day migrants moving to Europe's cities. By exploring a history that has been long overlooked, she sheds light on questions very much alive today - on racism, identity, citizenship, power and resilience.

*African Europeans* is a landmark account of a crucial thread in Europe's complex history.

**Olivette Otele** is professor of the History of Slavery at the University of Bristol and vice-president of the Royal Historical Society. She is an expert on the history of people of African descent and the links between memory, geopolitics and legacies of French and British colonialism.

"Fascinating... One of the book's great pleasures is its cast of memorable characters [and] though this is a work of synthesis, it's an unusually generous and densely layered one." - The Guardian

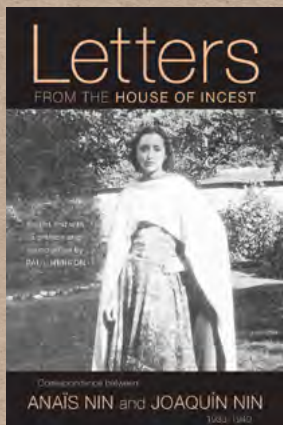
"People of African heritage have contributed greatly to Europe's music, literature and more. But their achievements have long been overlooked... African Europeans works to bring more of this past to public attention." - The Wall Street Journal

"Superbly researched... This richly layered history brims with stories of how African Europeans contributed to the culture, politics and language in the countries they lived in... This book is more than just the stories of interesting lives; it is also a careful study of the scholarship on these individuals." - Prospect

"A brilliant, important and beautifully written book that forces us to think about the past differently." Peter Frankopan, History Today Books of the Year 2020

"African Europeans is an immense accomplishment and an urgent intervention from one of the most important scholars of the African diaspora working today." - History Today

"As well as demystifying the longstanding and complicated presence of African people in Europe, this book... explains the role that complex intersections of class, skin colour, nationality and gender played in the nuanced experiences of African individuals." - BBC History Magazine



## LETTERS FROM THE HOUSE OF INCEST

Correspondence between Anaïs  
Nin and Joaquín Nin, 1933–1940

by **Paul Herron**

**Swallow / Ohio U.P.**, 212 p

**BULGARIAN, DANISH, FINNISH,  
FRENCH, ITALIAN, NORWEGIAN,  
ROMANIAN AND SWEDISH  
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## DAILY ALPHABET

A Life's Words

by **Dacia Maraini**

**Marlin**, 128 p

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The incestuous affair between the writer Anaïs Nin and her father, the pianist-composer Joaquín Nin, is well-documented in the volume of her unexpurgated diary published under the title *Incest*. What has been missing from that account is Joaquín's point of view. *Letters from the House of Incest* collects the correspondence between Anaïs and Joaquín just before, during, and after the affair, which commenced in 1933, twenty years after he had abandoned his ten-year-old daughter and the rest of his family. These letters were long believed to have been destroyed and lost to history. In 2006, however, a folder containing Joaquín's original letters to his daughter was discovered in Anaïs's Los Angeles home, along with a second folder of her letters to him. Together, they tell the story of an absent father's attempt to reconnect with his adult daughter and how that rapprochement quickly turned into an illicit sexual relationship. Altogether, this volume presents more than one hundred intimate communications between these two artistic geniuses, revealing not only the dynamics of their complex relationship, but also why Anaïs spent her life in a never-ending battle to feel loved, appreciated, and understood, all of which informed her art.

**Paul Herron** is the founder and editor of Sky Blue Press, which publishes the journal *A Café in Space* and digital editions of the fiction of Anaïs Nin, as well as a new collection of Nin erotica, *Auletris*.

The result of a long friendship, this book collects an extensive conversation between Dacia Maraini and Gioconda Marinelli on various topics, from daily ones to burning issues as pollution and pandemics, through the passions and battles of a lifetime.

Maraini tells herself without hesitation and talks about feelings, values, emotions, weaknesses, certainties, habits and experiences. From the conversation questions emerge that belong to everyone's life, about love, suffering, violence, death. Marinelli's questions are pressing and Maraini's answers and considerations are sure, quick, sincere, never elusive.

While sharing Maraini's innermost thoughts and soul motions, this book is food for thought.

**Dacia Maraini** is the author of novels, short stories, plays, poems and essays, published in over twenty countries. Awarded with the Campiello, Strega, Hemingway and many other prizes, in 2020 she received the Viareggio Lifetime Achievement Award.



## CLIMATE HISTORIES

From Mesopotamia to Exoplanets

by **Gianluca Lentini**

**Hoepli, 144 p**

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## THE PLASTIC TURN

by **Ranjan Ghosh**

**Cornell U.P., 248 p**

**ITALIAN TRANSLATION RIGHTS AVAILABLE**

How has our knowledge of the climate developed over the course of five millennia – and has it been really understood? This book aims to tell the history of climatology, a complex, even fickle subject as old as human civilization.

The effects of climate change, from the Ice Age onwards, have always had repercussions on the development of civilizations and cultures. This book starts from Mesopotamia to get to the latest research on the climate of planets far from Earth, in a history that covers the West and the East, the Old and the New Worlds.

Climatology is today at the center of the world political and economic debate, with the key theme of global warming: if the climate has accompanied and also determined the development of man, now it is man who determines the climate. Knowing about climatology and its history is also one of the keys to understanding how to protect the climate and the future of the human species on Earth.

**Gianluca Lentini** is a geophysicist specializing in climatology and works as a researcher for the Poliedra-Politecnico di Milano Consortium, where he deals with sustainable development projects. He is the author of scientific and popular publications and a member of the Scientific Committee of Climalteranti.it, a site and blog for scientific divulgation on climate change.

The Plastic Turn offers a novel way of looking at plastic as the defining material of our age and at the plasticity of plastic as an innovative means of understanding the arts and literature. Ranjan Ghosh terms this approach the material-aesthetic and, through this concept, traces the emergence and development of plastic polymers along the same historical trajectory as literary modernism. Plastic's growth as a product in the culture industry, its formation through multiple application and chemical syntheses, and its circulation via oceanic movements, Ghosh argues, correspond with, and offers novel insights into, developments in modernist literature and critical theory.

Through innovative readings of canonical modernist texts, analyses of art works, and accounts of plastic's devastating environmental impact, The Plastic Turn proposes plastic's unique properties and destructive ubiquity as a "theory machine" to explain literature and life in the Anthropocene. Introducing several new concepts (like plastic literature, plastic literary, etc.) into critical-humanist discourse, Ghosh enmeshes literature and theory, materiality and philosophy, history and ecology, to explore why plastic as a substance and as an idea intrigues, disturbs, and haunts us.

**Ranjan Ghosh** teaches in the Department of English at the University of North Bengal.

"The Plastic Turn is a major book in critical theory that advances the discussion of plasticity as a new way of being and will be influential for years to come in critical theory, literary studies, and philosophy." Daniel T. O'Hara, Temple University



## SUPERCHARGE ME

Net Zero Faster

by **E. Lonergan** and  
**C. Sawers**

**Agenda**, 232 p

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## POINTLESS WORLD ATLAS

100 Places that didn't make  
History

by **Alban Marcarini**

**Hoepli**, 256 p

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Almost everyone agrees on the need to transition the global economy to net zero. But how do we do it? And how do we do it faster? If you feel demoralized, depressed or confused about the climate crisis this book will provide answers – and ones that don't involve punishing lifestyle changes, the end of capitalism, or a much higher tax bill.

*Supercharge Me* is grounded in relentless realism about how governments, businesses and individuals actually behave. It draws lessons from what has worked so far: extreme positive incentives and smart regulations. Through a series of fast-paced dialogues, the authors introduce practical ideas for change that will embolden activists, reinvigorate the disheartened, and reframe the climate crisis as an opportunity.

**Eric Lonergan** is a policy economist and author, with over twenty years' experience in financial markets. He is co-author with Mark Blyth of the international bestseller, *Angrynomics*. He has written extensively on innovations in monetary policy and frequently contributes to the *Financial Times*.

**Corinne Sawers** has spent the last decade advising global business and governments on climate and sustainability. She is co-founder of More United, a not-for-profit tackling tribalism in UK politics.

"This short, readable book is a polite rebuke to the economists who have dominated climate policy thinking, especially those focused on the idea that the best way to fix a negative externality such as carbon pollution is to tax it." **Financial Times, Best New Books on Climate Change**

A repertoire of geopolitical anomalies that have rarely had a place in history or left a mark in geography: disrupted republics, ephemeral kingdoms, utopian enterprises, border absurdities, lost or never born islands, unlikely cities. From Gasolinopolis to Mont Blanc, but also from Halfwell to Pheasant Island, from Hôtel Belvédère to Gigha Island, from Chevsvuri to Buganda, from Inaccessible Island to Zero Island. Charts are ambiguous just enough to confound what is right and what is wrong – and let the reader decide if analyze or do without them – as after all, we know that when it comes to outdoing fiction, nothing beats fact.

The Atlas consists of one hundred double-page charts. The left-hand page features the chart's title, its geographical coordinates, its location on the map and its story; the right-hand page features the chart's cartographic details created by the author himself borrowing from a variety of sources. A guide on how to get to the places described, a bibliography and an index of geographical names round out the book.

**Albano Marcarini** is an urban planner from Milan, Italy. He writes travel guides and travels thousands of miles every year to discover forgotten places. He draws charts and collects old topographical maps – source of lost journeys' coordinates. He has edited various atlases for De Agostini, the Italian Touring Club and the Istituto Geografico Militare.



## WALDEN TWO

by **Burrhus F. Skinner**

**Hackett, 320 p**

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## NO NOTHING A Critique on Academic Nihilism

by **John van der Horst**

**Aldo Manuzio, 224 p**

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This fictional outline of a modern utopia has been a center of controversy ever since its publication in 1948. Set in the United States, it pictures a society in which human problems are solved by a scientific technology of human conduct.

It is now widely recognized that great changes must be made in the American way of life. Not only can we not face the rest of the world while consuming and polluting as we do, we cannot for long face ourselves while acknowledging the violence and chaos in which we live. The choice is clear: either we do nothing and allow a miserable and probably catastrophic future to overtake us, or we use our knowledge about human behavior to create a social environment in which we shall live productive and creative lives and do so without jeopardizing the chances that those who follow us will be able to do the same. Something like a Walden Two would not be a bad start.

**Burrhus Frederic Skinner** (1904–1990), regarded by many as the most important and influential psychologist since Freud, earned his doctorate in psychology at Harvard University in 1931. Following appointments at the University of Minnesota and Indiana University, he returned to Harvard in 1948. He remained there for the rest of his career, retiring in 1974 as Edgar Pierce professor of Psychology. His work is being rediscovered in recent years.

Also available, by the same author: *Beyond Freedom and Dignity*.

Is the mind merely an activity of the brain? Is man actually the slave of his genes? In the scientific world, both questions are often answered with “yes”. But John van der Horst has his doubts about this academic “nihilism” that assumes that the world is ultimately ruled by blind natural forces. He kicks the sore leg of materialistic reductionists by asking questions like: Why do people like music? How can life originate from dead and languid matter? Do our memories really reside in our brains? Do love and morality exist in a power- and survival-driven evolution? In an accessible style, John van der Horst gnaws at the shaky pillars on which academic nihilism is built.

The author shows that there is a positive orientation in this world that cannot be described only in material terms, because in many ways it is precisely opposite to matter: inspired, committed, altruistic.

Philosopher **John van der Horst** is an advisor in the field of education, diversity and culture, and is also a writer and painter. He has also taught philosophy and ethics or many years at the Administrative Academy of The Netherlands.



## POLITICS AND AESTHETICS

Conversations with Peter Engelmann

by **Jacques Rancière**

**Passagen**, 112 p

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## ALGORITHM OF DEATH

The Artificial Intelligence Dilemma

by **Roberto Simanowski**

**Passagen**, 144 p

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WINNER OF THE  
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In *Politics and Aesthetics* the fifth volume in the series *Passagen Gespräche*, the French philosopher Jacques Rancière retraces the defining concepts of his own thinking.

Starting from his rupture with structural marxism, Rancière reconstructs his philosophical biography: from the early studies on the emancipation of workers to his recent research on literature, cinema and visual arts. The connection between politics and aesthetics emerges as a *fil rouge* in the French philosopher's thinking. Politics in the form of dissent can derange the established order. Distancing himself from Althusser and Bourdieu, Rancière insists on the egalitarian nature of aesthetics and perception. He drafts therefore a concept of aesthetics as the "regime of the experience" with the intention of rewriting the acknowledged truths of art history and criticising the modernist dogma. In the final part the dialogue looks into contemporary artistic and political movements in search of their subversive potential.

**Jacques Rancière** is a professor emeritus of Philosophy and an art historian. He has gained international renown with his works on political philosophy and aesthetics.

**Peter Engelmann** is a publisher, philosopher, and editor of postmodern and deconstructivist French philosophers in German.

The dystopian promise of artificial intelligence is the return to a paradise, in which our own creation becomes our God and takes away the task of thinking and making decisions from us.

Algorithms rule the world – this is true today and will be even more tomorrow. They control self-driving cars and steer social processes more and more. But how do we program these algorithms? And what will happen, when they finally program themselves? Concern is as great as hope in this moral dilemma. Will algorithms be allowed to decide who has to die and who has to be saved in an emergency? Will artificial intelligence take away people's free will, protect them from themselves and send them back to the paradise of indecision?

This book invites its readers to think of our future in a philosophical manner, considering all the paradoxes of artificial intelligence.

**Roberto Simanowski**, born in 1963, is a cultural and media scholar and is a distinguished fellow of Global Literary Studies in the Excellence Cluster "Temporal Communities" at Freie Universität Berlin.

"Simanowski's essay stands out pleasantly from a criticism that questions machines as the alienation of humans from their real needs." Matthias Dusini

"An intellectual provocation in the best sense of the word - driven by an irrepressible lust for ambivalences and paradoxes." - The Tractatus jury



## THE LAST EUROPEAN WALL

Cyprus, Mediterranean's heart and crossroads

by **Giovanni Vazzana**

**Paesi**, 96 p

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## A MODERN MIGRATION THEORY

An Alternative Economic Approach to Failed EU Policy

by **Peo Hansen**

**Agenda**, 256 p

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This is a detailed reconstruction of the genesis and evolution of the Cyprus problem: from the negotiation attempts shipwrecked in recent decades, through the Annan Plan for the reunification of the island on a federal form -rejected by the 2004 referendum -, to the entry of the Republic of Cyprus into the EU - which was the ultimate split of this land in two -.

Today more than ever, Cyprus is at the center of new disputes in the Eastern Mediterranean, with Erdogan's Turkey claiming control on the immense gas and oil reserves located off the Cyprus coast and posing a threat to the explorations of the Italian ENI company.

**Giovanni Vazzana**, an attentive researcher of borders issues, minority problems, dynamics of state divisions, in Cyprus has had the opportunity to watch from the inside "the last wall of Europe" during a stay sponsored by the Italian Youth Association for UNESCO.

Current migration policy is based on a seemingly neutral accounting exercise, in which migrants contribute less in tax than they receive in welfare assistance. A "fact" that justifies increasingly restrictive asylum policies. Peo Hansen shows that this consensual cost-perspective on migration is built on a flawed economic conception of the orthodox "sound finance" doctrine prevalent in migration research and policy. By examining migration through the macroeconomic lens offered by modern monetary theory, Hansen is able to demonstrate sound finance's detrimental impact on migration policy and research, including its role in stoking the toxic debate on migration in the European Union. More importantly, Hansen's undertaking offers the tools with which both migration research and migration policy could be modernized and put on a realistic footing.

**Peo Hansen** is professor of Political Science at the Institute for Research on Migration, Ethnicity and Society (REMESO), Linköping University, Sweden. He has written extensively on questions of migration, citizenship and identity and how they relate to the political economy of European integration.

"A timely book on the supposed trade-off between migration and the sustainability of the welfare state. Hansen's skilful debunking of the 'sound finance' view demonstrates that there is no 'fiscal burden' when it comes to migration. Migrants are an essential part of the workforce and contribute to the economy. I highly recommend this superb book." Dirk Ehnts, Institute for International Political Economy, Berlin



# THE EUROPEAN SOCIAL QUESTION

Tackling Key Controversies

by **Amandine Crespy**

**Agenda, 256 p**

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# RESILIENT WELFARE STATES IN THE EU

by **A. Hemerijck** and  
**R. Huguenot-Noël**

**Agenda, 184 p**

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Over recent years it has become increasingly clear that the European Union is falling short of its promise to enhance social cohesion across the continent. Welfare state modernization has been at the centre of divisive debates over the redistribution of wealth and imbalances between a wealthy European core and its peripheries. Some see the policies and governance of the EU as part of the problem, others rather as the solution.

This book examines the key issues facing the EU's social policy-making. Each chapter focuses on a single challenge and explores the arguments and considerations that coalesce around it. The book helps students and researchers alike to understand how the EU operates and shapes social policy on multiple levels, and to better assess the EU's role in supporting social cohesion.

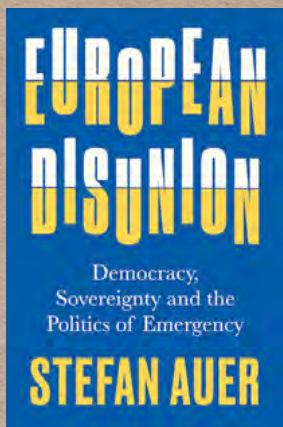
**Amandine Crespy** is associate professor in Political Science and European Studies at the Université libre de Bruxelles and a visiting professor at the College of Europe, Bruges. She is the author of *Welfare Markets in Europe: The Democratic Challenge of European Integration* and the co-editor of *Governance and Politics in the Post-Crisis European Union*.

"A must-read for students, researchers and all those interested in a fairer and more democratic European Union." – Maurizio Ferrara, Professor of Politics, University of Milan

The European welfare systems have been under sustained attack since the late 1970s from the neoliberal drive towards a small state and from the market as the foremost instrument for the efficient allocation of scarce resources. After the 2008 financial crash, Europe's high tax and generous benefits welfare states were blamed for economic stagnation and political immobilism. The long decade of the Great Recession proved that the welfare state remained a fundamental asset in hard times, stabilizing the economy, protecting households and individuals from poverty while improving the skills and competences needed in Europe's knowledge economy and ageing society. Finally, the spread of the Covid-19 pandemic has brought back into the limelight the productive role of welfare systems in guaranteeing basic security, economic opportunities and democratic freedoms. In this book, Hemerijck and Huguenot-Noël evaluate the impact of the austerity measures that followed the Great Recession, and consider its future design to better equip European societies to face social change, from global competition to accelerated demographic ageing, the digitalization of work and climate change.

**Anton Hemerijck** is professor of Political Science and Sociology at the European University Institute, Florence. He was previously Centennial Professor of Social Policy at the London School of Economics.

**Robin Huguenot-Noël** is a doctoral researcher at the European University Institute. He previously worked as an economic policy advisor to the UK Treasury, the German cooperation and development agency (GIZ) and the European Policy Centre (EPC).



## EUROPEAN DISUNION

Democracy, Sovereignty and the  
Politics of Emergency

by **Stefan Auer**

Hurst, 288 p

**FRENCH, GERMAN, ITALIAN,  
PORTUGUESE, RUSSIAN AND  
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A compelling critique of the European project, arguing that the EU has failed to establish supranational sovereignty, yet has still damaged national democracies. The European Union means many different things to its many peoples. In Germany, for example, the European project was conceived mainly as post-national, or even post-sovereign. In France, by contrast, President Emmanuel Macron has pursued the vision of a sovereign Europe; that is, an EU that would become a formidable geopolitical actor. Yet, instead, Europe has struggled to ascertain its values abroad and even domestically, facing a sovereignist rebellion from its newer member states, such as Hungary and Poland, and the departure of Britain. The eurozone crisis has undermined the EU's economic credentials, the refugee crisis its societal cohesion, the failure to stand up to Russia its sense of purpose, and the Covid-19 pandemic its credibility as a protector of European citizens. The multiple crises of the European project are caused by one factor: its bold attempt to overcome the age of nation-states. Left unchecked, supranational institutions tend to become ever more bureaucratic, eluding control of the people they are meant to serve. The logic of technocracy is thus pitted against the democratic impulse, which the European Union is supposed to embody. Democracy in Europe has suffered as a result.

**Stefan Auer** is associate professor at the University of Hong Kong. Twice named Jean Monnet Chair in EU Studies, he has published an award-winning monograph, *Liberal Nationalism in Central Europe*, and articles in *Government and Opposition*; *International Affairs*; *the Journal of Common Market Studies* and *West European Politics*, among others.



## DIGITAL TRANSFORMATION

New Tools and Methods for  
Mining Technological Intelligence

by **T.U. Daim** and  
**H. Yalçın**

**E. Elgar, 192 p**

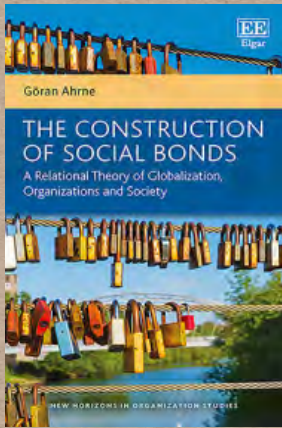
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Technology is not just limited to technology companies, it impacts sectors such as healthcare, agriculture, and security. In the last few decades, countries, too, have started developing technologies or integrating technologies into their systems. As a result, all countries, regardless of size, need to understand the management of engineering and technology concepts. *Digital Transformations* reviews fundamentals and applications through existing and emerging technologies all around the world.

Big data availability and the emergence of new tools provide opportunities to detect the emergence of new technologies. Some of the major elements of such analyses include bibliometrics, patent analysis and social network analysis. The authors focus on these three tools and demonstrate their use through applications such as Blockchain, Artificial Intelligence, Robotics, 3D printing, Wireless Power, Autonomous and Electric Driving, and Smart Homes.

Through the examination of cases based on emerging technologies, the book provides a spectrum of these recent applications and serves as a reference for professionals, researchers and students on fundamentals of technology utilization tools.

**Tugrul U. Daim** is professor at the Maseeh College of Engineering and Computer Science, Department of Engineering and Technology Management, Portland State University, US. **Haydar Yalçın** is associate professor at the Division of Management Information Systems at the Ege University, Izmir, Turkey.



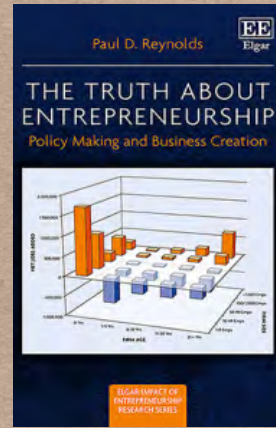
# THE CONSTRUCTION OF SOCIAL BONDS

A Relational Theory of Globalization, Organizations and Society

by **Göran Ahrne**

**E. Elgar, 160 p**

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AND PORTUGUESE  
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# THE TRUTH ABOUT ENTRE- PRENEURSHIP

Policy Making and Business Creation

by **P.D. Reynolds**

**E. Elgar, 224 p**

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This engaging and timely book demonstrates how a deeper understanding of theories about organizations are necessary for the development of a relational sociology and provides an in-depth explanation of globalization and social change. It also examines how social bonds are constructed through combinations of different forms of communication and investigates the bonds of intimate relationships and partially organized relationships such as street gangs, brotherhoods, and social movements.

Göran Ahrne addresses the five key organizational elements: membership, rules, monitoring, sanctions, and hierarchy and illustrates this detailed analysis with examples of organizations ranging from rock groups and mafias, to global organizations such as Google, and meta-organizations such as FIFA. Drawing on extensive research with co-authors, Ahrne reviews how both old and new relationships expand, change and remain together amongst globalization and social change.

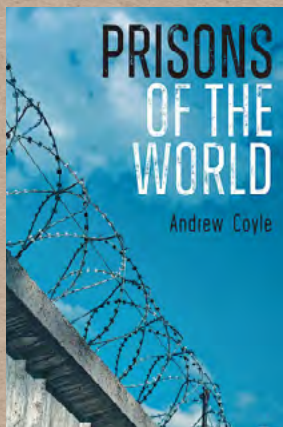
This insightful book will be an invaluable resource for researchers and students in organizational studies as well as those studying sociology. It will also provide useful guidance for sociologists and theorists interested in social and organization theories.

**Göran Ahrne** is professor emeritus at the Department of Sociology, Stockholm University, Sweden.

Policy makers give a lot of attention to business creation and entrepreneurship, but they do not have a good resource for understanding The Truth about Entrepreneurship. The extensive media coverage of Wall Street entrepreneurship provides an incomplete portrayal of most business creation. While both high profile and everyday new firms provide major contributions to economic growth, the ongoing, bottoms-up activity pursued by over half a billion around the world is not widely recognized.

This book reviews some of the most salient features of grass roots business creation, such as the total amount of activity, differences related to national economic development, the relationship to business churning and job creation, the impact of national context, the mixed contributions of high growth firms, the modest effect of external financial support, the unequal distribution of sunk costs related to successful payback, importance as an option for the most desperate in poor countries, and the tendency to overlook the continuing incremental impact of Main Street business creation.

**Paul D. Reynolds**, is honorary professor of entrepreneurship at the Aston Business School, Birmingham, UK and founding coordinating principal investigator of the Global Entrepreneurship Monitor Program.



# PRISONS OF THE WORLD

by **Andrew Coyle**

**Policy Press**, 246 p

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# BOMBSHELL

The Night Bobby Kennedy Killed Marilyn Monroe

by **M. Rothmiller** and **D. Thompson**

**Ad Lib**, 336 p

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How do governments and societies use prison to respond to underlying and fundamental social, economic and political issues?

Using data on world imprisonment and numerous international examples from his personal experience, Coyle, a prison practitioner, academic and international expert, discusses the failings of prison around the world.

Acknowledging the influence of external agencies, such as the Committee for the Prevention of Torture, the Inter-American Court of Human Rights and court interventions in the use of solitary confinement, he offers some positive pointers for the future and how there might be a better distribution of resources between criminal justice and social justice by an application of the principles of Justice Reinvestment.

**Andrew Coyle** is professor emeritus of Prison Studies at the University of London. Following a distinguished career as a prison governor he became founding Director of the International Centre for Prison Studies in King's College London and has spent many years advising national governments and international agencies on prison related issues in over 70 countries.

"An outstanding book, written by someone who has dedicated his life to international penal reform. It is unlike any other in its scope, humanity and clear political message." Alison Liebling, University of Cambridge

*Bombshell* tells the definitive story of the death of Marilyn Monroe at the hand of another.

Drawing on publicly unseen police files and primary testimony, this book determines who was directly responsible for her death. It details Marilyn Monroe's tumultuous personal involvement with President John Kennedy and his brother, the U.S. Attorney General Robert Kennedy. The new evidence and revelatory statements are provided by Mike Rothmiller who, as a detective of the Organized Crime Intelligence Division (OCID) of the LAPD, had direct personal access to hundreds of restricted LAPD files on exactly what happened at Marilyn Monroe's Californian home on August 5, 1962.

With his training and investigator's knowledge, Rothmiller used that confidential information to get to the heart of the matter, to the people who were there the night Marilyn died - two of whom played major roles in the cover-up - and the wider conspiracy to protect the Kennedys whatever the collateral damage.

**Mike Rothmiller** has worked across US Federal and State agencies and with American and international intelligence services for over ten years, including five years as a deep undercover detective with the Organised Crime Intelligence Division [OCID]. He was a member of the U.S. Department of Justice Organised Crime Strike Force and provided secret Grand Jury testimony regarding the assassination of Senator Robert Kennedy. **Douglas Thompson** is the author of more than twenty books, including the biographies of Madonna, Clint Eastwood, John Travolta, Nicolas Cage and Leonardo DiCaprio.



## THE LOGIC OF INCERTITUDE

Close Encounters with the  
Paradoxes of Probability

by **Bruno Codenotti and  
Giovanni Resta**

Hoepli, 176 p

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## PARIS

by **Christian Lefèvre**

Agenda, 200 p

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As already Cicero observed, the calculation of probabilities can help a lot in both the small and the big life choices.

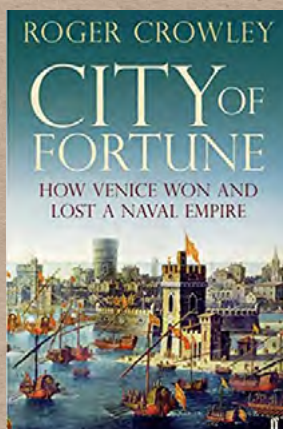
In this book, the authors show how using simple probabilistic tools how situations of uncertainty can be faced in a rational way, according to logical and mathematical skills. Some of the topics covered, such as the birthday paradox and the Monty Hall problem, will highlight that our intuitive understanding of probabilities is not good at all, especially when it comes to estimating how often highly unlikely events occur.

**Bruno Codenotti** is research manager at the Institute of Informatics and Telematics of the CNR of Pisa. After having done research in computational game theory and algorithmic, in recent years he has been working on scientific dissemination. **Giovanni Resta** is senior researcher at the Institute of Informatics and Telematics of the CNR of Pisa. He has dealt with computational and algorithmic complexity, and more recently with problems related to smart mobility.

Alongside New York and London, Paris is one of the world's earliest megacities. Its growth and character have been fashioned by a distinctive mix of policies that separate it from other long-time megacities as well as the fast-growing urban centres of the Global South.

Christian Lefèvre examines the social and economic forces that have shaped Paris and which have made it the city it is today. He charts the impact of global trends, such as the shift from industry to service and information sectors, as well as regional factors, especially those arising from Paris's unique system of governance. The book examines the central role the national government has played in policies affecting the city and explores how the shift towards political decentralization and localism has contributed to a system increasingly incapable of taking collective action. This tension is shown to have impacted the city's provision of services, particularly housing, and promoted inequalities within the city and its region. Paris's unrivalled national dominance is also examined alongside its weaker position as a global city.

**Christian Lefèvre** is professor at Ecole d'Urbanisme de Paris, Université Paris-Est. He is a member of the executive committee of the European Urban Research Association (EURA) and has been a consultant for the OECD, European Commission, UN-Habitat and the city of Paris. He is coauthor of *Struggling Giants: City-Region Governance in London, New York, Paris and Tokyo*.



## CITY OF FORTUNE

How Venice won and lost a naval empire

by **Roger Crowley**

**Random House, 432 p**

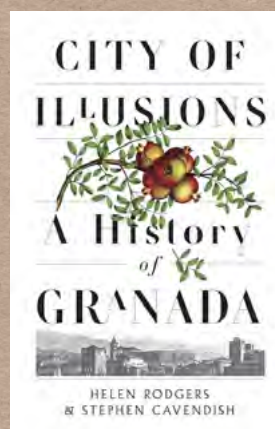
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*City of Fortune* tells the story of Venice's rise from lagoon dwellers to the greatest power in the Mediterranean. It was an epic five hundred year voyage that encompassed crusade and trade, plague, sea warfare and colonial adventure. Along the way, Venice created an empire of ports and naval bases – the Stato da Mar – which flourished under the lion banner of St Mark and whose sole function was to funnel the goods of the world back into the warehouses of the lagoon. Venice became, for a time, the axis of world trade and the richest place on earth. The city was a brilliant mosaic fashioned from what it bought, traded, borrowed and stole across the Mediterranean basin.

The path to empire unfolded in a series of extraordinary contests – the sacking of Constantinople in 1204 that launched the Stato da Mar, the slugging contest with Genoa fought to the death within the lagoon itself, and the desperate defence against the Ottoman empire. The long arc of ascent, domination and maritime decline is the subject of this book.

*City of Fortune* is a rich narrative about trade and warfare, seafaring and piracy, and the places where Venetian merchants sailed, traded and died: Constantinople, Crete, Alexandria, the Black Sea, the Adriatic and the shores of Greece. It begins symbolically on Ascension Day in the year 1000 and ends with an enormous explosion off the Peloponnese in 1498 – and the calamitous news that the Portuguese had pioneered a sea route to India, strangling Venice's lucrative spice trade.

**Roger Crowley** is the author of several bestselling narrative history books.



## CITY OF ILLUSION

A History of Granada

by **H. Rodgers and S. Cavendish**

**Hurst, 360 p**

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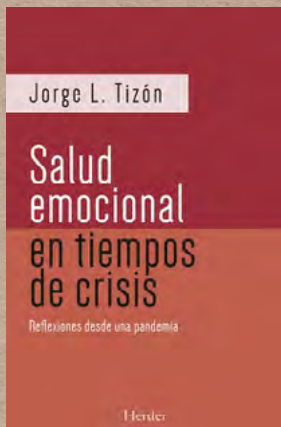
A scintillating history of one of Europe's most alluring cities.

Granada is a deceptive city, concealing a layered past and a complex character. The last Muslim capital in Western Europe, over the centuries it has captured hearts and imaginations, inspiring countless myths and legends. Yet its history reveals even more fascinating tales: secrets and follies, victory and failure, poetry and art. *City of Illusions* brings together Granada's many stories - the archaeological forger, the renegade French general, the garrotted liberal heroine, the Jewish poet who served two Muslim rulers. This colourful cast of characters takes us from the founding eleventh-century dynasty and the building of the Alhambra, through the Reconquista, French occupation and Spanish Civil War, right up to the present day.

Granada's history has long been fought over, rewritten, idealised or buried. This rich, elegant book sets the record straight on a beautiful, elusive city, with all its quirks, mysteries, intrigues and triumphs.

**Helen Rodgers** is an Arabist, whose fascination for the history of the Arab world has led to over two decades of historical research across the Mediterranean region. **Stephen Cavendish** is a writer, editor and historian with a passion for the medieval and modern history of Europe and the Middle East.

'Rodgers and Cavendish have read deeply, communicate their enthusiasm for the city very well and provide illuminating pictures of its most notable inhabitants.'  
- Literary Review



## EMOTIONAL HEALTH IN TIMES OF CRISES

by **Jorge L. Tizón**

**Herder, 189 p**

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## VULNERABILITY

by **Miquel Seguró**

**Herder, 184 p**

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This work tries to bring us closer to understanding what is happening to us on a psychological level as protagonists of a crisis: the one derived from the COVID-19 pandemic.

Beyond fear, the emotions that move in a crisis like this span a broader spectrum. What are the other emotions that invade us and what role are they playing? How can we manage this crisis and those that will come at the emotional level, at the level of health and mental health resources, at the level of community and community care?

The global impact of this pandemic is so new and so unexpected that we do not know where events lead us to. All we know is that they will not be as we had envisioned, as we expected or as we would have wished before it happened. The only thing that can be said for sure about crises... is that there will be more.

**Jorge L. Tizón** (A Coruña, 1946) is a psychiatrist, psychoanalyst, psychologist and neurologist. For twenty-two years he directed the mental health units for children, adults, serious mental disorders and research teams at La Verneda, La Pau and La Mina, in Barcelona. Subsequently, he founded and directed the Mental Health Prevention and Early Care Team for Patients at Risk of Psychosis (EAPPP) of the Institut Català de la Salut de Barcelona, the first Spanish team entirely dedicated to such work. He currently teaches at the University Institute of Mental Health of the Ramon Llull University and is a visiting professor at various national and foreign universities and training institutes.

By vulnerability we tend to understand everything that has to do with our pain and suffering dimension. Being vulnerable, though, mainly means being affected. Therefore, all what has to do with being human, no matter if positive and joyful or the opposite, is deeply related to our being, always and any time, vulnerable beings.

This is the starting point of this book, which encourages the reader to think about vulnerability on an existential note. The philosophical itinerary orbits around two fundamental areas: the existential reality of vulnerability (its pathos), and the decision to integrate it and live it as an ethical and political gear (its ethos). The author relies on René Descartes' work, whose philosophy he considers a propitious one to meditate on vulnerability, inasmuch it stimulates a reflection on vulnerability as a condition of human life, in all its magnitudes.

**Miquel Seguró** is a researcher at the Ethos Chair at the Ramon Llull University and a professor of Philosophy at the Open University of Catalonia. He is editor of the magazine *Argumenta Philosophica*. He has published a number of books and regularly collaborates in the media.

Also, by the same author: *La vida también se piensa* (2nd edition).



# THE PRICE OF FOOTBALL

by **Kieran Maguire**

**Agenda, 224 p**

**2nd Edition**

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# CULTURAL ECONOMICS

by **Christiane Hellmanzik**

**Agenda, 160 p**

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The first edition of *The Price of Football* quickly established itself as the go-to guide to understanding football club finance for the serious fan. Kieran Maguire, one of the UK's top football finance analysts, shows how professional clubs operate as businesses and explains, in non-technical language, how to read, understand and interrogate club accounts.

As a clear-headed analysis and presentation of the financial imperatives and challenges facing football clubs across the English and Scottish Leagues, it has become a welcome resource not only for students of the industry, but by a wider constituency of supporters looking to understand their club's latest transfer deal, or season ticket price.

This revised and updated second edition includes analysis of the most recent club accounts, as well as the impact of Covid-19 on the game's finances, the latest legal rulings on club affairs, and expanded coverage of the "creative accounting" ploys that some notable clubs have used.

**Kieran Maguire** teaches the Football Industries MBA at the University of Liverpool Management School. He specialises in financial reporting, financial modelling and football finance.

"Kieran Maguire combines financial expertise with a supporter's love of football, and does very valuable work documenting and explaining clubs' financial workings, including illuminating areas of concern for supporters whose clubs have fallen into crisis." David Conn, *The Guardian* and author of *The Fall of the House of FIFA*

The cultural industries and their products and services make a significant contribution to the global economy and are seen as strategic sectors for sustainable economic growth. However, industries such as art, design, film, music, performing arts, publishing, television and radio, present particular challenges for economic analysis. They can be goods or services that are both public and private, protected by copyright and freely available, consumed and created, as well as susceptible to fashion and technological development.

In this fascinating introduction to the cultural economy, Christiane Hellmanzik examines the market for creative work and reveals the economic relationships between human creativity, intellectual property and technology. Through the careful use of case studies, the book explores the core economic considerations such as supply and demand, competition and pricing, alongside macro trends such as globalization, digitalization and the internet, which are changing the industry's business models.

**Christiane Hellmanzik** is professor of Urban, Regional and International Economics at the Technical University of Dortmund, Germany, and a board member of the Association of Cultural Economics.



## NEWS FROM ICONOPOLIS

by **Antonio Valdecantos**  
**Herder Editorial, 240 p**

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## EARTH AND DESTINY

by **Luis Sáez Rueda**  
**Herder Editorial, 240 p**

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Perhaps we do not live, strictly speaking, in the society of spectacle. Nor in the era described by Walter Benjamin, in which the work of art generates a whole plethora of reproductions. What is really typical of our time is not the multiplication of copies of any given image, but the number of diverse images that anyone is capable of taking and storing, without the need for talent, attention, or hardly any expense.

Frequently, in the cities we live in, the facades under restoration are covered by a canvas that reproduces what is behind it. Instead of supplanting the original or simulating a non-existent one, the copy duplicates a model that, even though it should not be shown, has to be in almost physical contact with it. In this class of images the true sign of the times is understood.

On the canvas of Iconopolis, the previous and close reality cannot be missing so that there is an image. Incessantly, he must make images for himself in which he will often appear as the main object. It will also have produced, a few seconds before, events considered unique and, in the most emphatic possible sense, "original". The subject calls this frenetic activity "life", a life that would be impossible without the most fervent cult of authenticity and without the most devout and realistic fidelity to what is called "the facts."

**Antonio Valdecantos** is professor of philosophy at the Complutense University. He is the author of numerous works of thought and essays such as *Posthumous modernity*, *The fact and the waste*, *Morality as an anomaly*, *The balance of the spirit* and *Theory of the subject*.

The seriousness of the current ecological crisis is not due to the risk it poses to the survival of our species. On the contrary, we have reduced our relationship with the Earth to the mere desire to survive. Through a novel philosophy of nature, Luis Sáez ventures into this inhabitable and also self-creating Earth, defining the contours of a "pregnant ecology" and a "telluric cosmopolitanism".

Wild capitalism, procedural rationalization and the spirit of calculation are powers that have become independent of the human will, acting as a fatal destiny that uproots us from this Earth. These powers, united, make up a single one: the "management" and "technical gesture" of power, aimed at artificially constructing the non-constructible, that telluric depth that we are losing.

The fate that uproots us from the Earth generates a growing collective and anonymous malaise: an *Infirmitas*, the disease of "lack of firmness." In the most audacious times of humanity, it has been the tragic spirit that has faced fate and the pain it causes, opposing them with the resistance of dignity. Faced with a world in which the heroes seem to have died, this book takes us into that worthy fortress that one day awoke the tragic spirit, with the intention of reactivating it.

**Luis Sáez Rueda** is a professor of philosophy at the University of Granada and one of the most important figures of contemporary Spanish philosophy.



## HONOUR, SHAME AND DISGRACE

Why are Women subjected to Violence?

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## SEXUALITY POWER RELIGION

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by **Joachim Kügler**

**Echter**, 128 p

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Using terms such as shame, guilt and honor, Emina Saric illuminates how gender-specific role assignments are transferred from the past to the present through education and tradition.

Forms of violence such as forced marriage, behavior and dress codes, intimidation, threats and honor killings, which take place under the guise of traditions, religions and cultures, have long become part of our everyday lives. The bearers of such structures and forms of tradition, which are not immediately recognizable, can be of all genders and gender identities. Those affected are often not aware of the dimension of traditional thinking and behavior. In order to break the spiral of violence, both theoretical analysis and practical work with children and young people are required.

**Emina Saric** is a member of the Expert Council for Integration and researches gender relations in patriarchal worlds. She teaches at the Catholic University of Education and at the training center for social professions in Graz. In 2020 she received the Human Rights Prize of the State of Styria.

For more than ten years, abuse scandals in church and society have aroused public anger and revulsion.

Against this background, the New Testament scholar Joachim Kügler undertakes some biblical and religious-historical excursions in order to better understand the close connection between power, sexuality and religion. This journey through time is not an invitation to escape from the present, but an attempt to uncover the basic structures of male-dominated societies. In the encounter with fathers who offer their daughters for rape, women who have to become men in order to be equal, and gods who play out their power sexually, it becomes oppressively clear that the label "rape culture" was not only fit back then.

What is different today? There is publicity, criticism and even alternatives.

**Joachim Kügle** is a theologian. He is the holder of the chair for Biblical Theology at the University of Bamberg.



## THE MAGIC BOX

A tool to facilitate relationships with the child

by **Giovanna Parimbelli**  
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## EACH STORY IS A GAME

16 workshops to narrate, play, experiment

by **Giovanna Paesani**  
La Meridiana, 142 p

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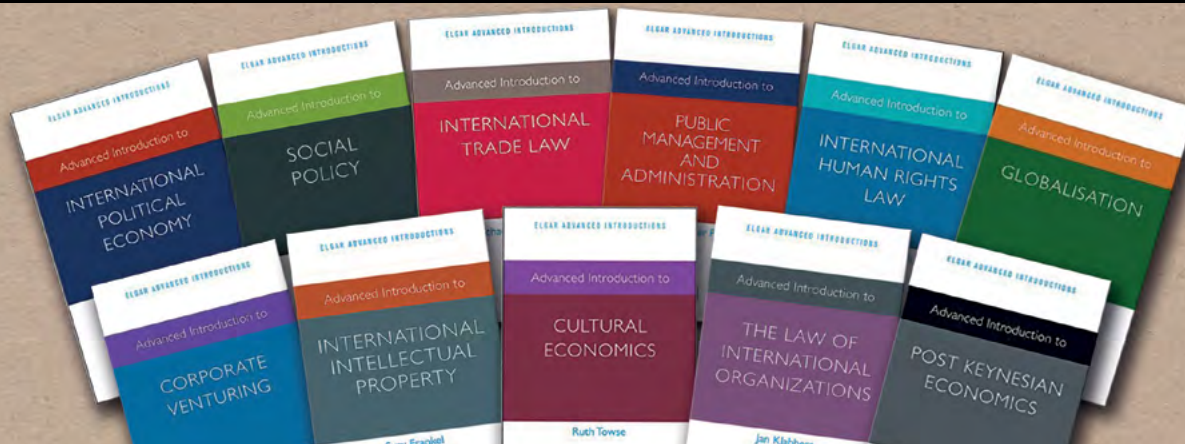
The magic box, offering children the opportunity to immerse in their inner world, allows them to observe the other and incorporate it through imitation, also allowing conflict as an enriching experience. There is no need to explain how to do it, nor there is only one way to do it; it will be the educator who, at different times of the day, will use her/his own box in absolute autonomy. This shall allow her/him to be unique each time, choosing to extract and narrate what she/he can really share at that moment. While working for over twenty years with minors from 0 to 6 years and more -first in an educational role and then as a psychologist- the author has extended the use of the magic box to the psycho-pedagogical sphere because it is the magic -which gradually materializes-. It is not a matter of simply extracting an object nor a song singing, it's the content that conveys wider and deeper meanings and develops the children's magical thought, since everything inside the magic box is alive and animated by feelings for them. This way, the toy car may be angry or happy, the pig frightened or sad, until the children progressively understand actions and foresee reactions to objects in a frame of thought development. This way it will be possible to talk about a number of topics such as bereavement, gender identity, intelligence, bilingualism and everything that the child will be able to express.

**Giovanna Parimbelli** is a clinical psychologist and trainee systemic psychotherapist. She coordinates the Montessori-inspired nursery "La stellina" and is a training consultant in educational services for children.

Fables still retain the ancient value of oral narration and remain a valid learning tool. Through the brevity and simplicity of language, fables communicate immediately, through characters and humanized animals that speak of real life and show well-defined attitudes, emotions and characteristics. They deal with important issues, as the importance of giving, kindness, self-love, self-knowledge, one's own skills, as well as cooperation and respect for others. All topics covered are aimed at emotional and personal growth, developing a sense of well-being, so that every child may feel welcomed, special and important. The book is aimed at educators who work with children aged 4 to 8, teachers of kindergarten and first cycle of primary school, workshop animators and parents who believe in the importance of experiencing, of learning through doing in their educational relationship with the child.

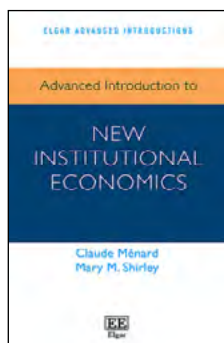
Through short, vivid stories and playful activities, children will be able to learn values and concepts fundamental for their growth, in a joyful way and with the help of games consistent with the stories told.

**Giovanna Paesani** has taught psycho-motive skills and preparatory gymnastics to children from three to six years and has directed a library for children, with joined workshops. She loves writing short stories, nursery rhymes and fairy tales for children.



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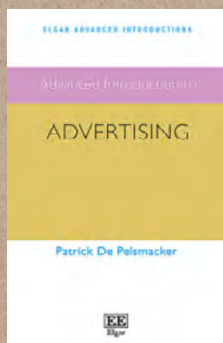
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**Claude Ménard** is professor of economics at the Centre d'Economie de la Sorbonne, Université de Paris (Panthéon-Sorbonne), France and **Mary M. Shirley** is president of the The Ronald Coase Institute, US



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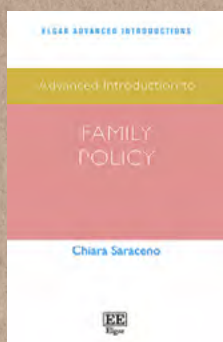
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Written by eminent scholar Chiara Saraceno, this Advanced Introduction offers a synthetic overview of the core theoretical and policy issues involved in family policy, currently the most dynamic sector of social policies in both developed and developing countries. It discusses the three primary areas of family policy in contemporary society: financial support for the cost of children, short and long term care for children and dependent people, and work-family conciliation.

**Chiara Saraceno** is an honorary fellow of the Collegio Carlo Alberto, Compagnia di San Paolo Foundation and University of Turin, Italy

"Chiara Saraceno has given us an engaging and concise analysis of the significance of family policy, hallmarked by her characteristic deep knowledge and critical approach."

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