

## EXPLORING INEQUALITY IN EUROPE

Diverging Income and Employment  
Opportunities in the Crisis

Edited by **Martin Heidenreich**, University of  
Oldenburg, Germany

*'Exploring Inequality in Europe marks a major advance in the sociology of European integration. Heidenreich's research group moves well beyond methodologically nationalist analyses of income inequality, using Eurostat survey data from before and after the recent recession. They demonstrate that EU citizens understand their own economic fortunes (a) in relative comparison to other EU citizens, and (b) as vulnerable to forces of European integration. This important book should be required reading for anyone who wants to understand how the EU has increased economic inequality and reshaped contemporary distributive politics in Europe.'*

– Jason Beckfield, Harvard University, US

*'This study marks a major breakthrough in research on European societies. While most of us working in this field still compare a set of national accounts, Martin Heidenreich and his colleagues treat the causes, profiles and consequences of inequality on a Europe-wide basis. This approach enables us to see underlying processes that nationally based projects cannot perceive.'*

– Colin Crouch, Vice-president for Social Sciences, British Academy'

Europe has become a dominant frame for the generation, regulation and perception of social inequalities. This trend was solidified by the current economic crisis, which is characterized by increasing inequalities between central and peripheral countries and groups. By analysing the double polarization between winners and losers of the crisis, the segmentation of labour markets and the perceived quality of life in Europe, this book contributes to a better understanding of patterns and dynamics of inequality in an integrated Europe.

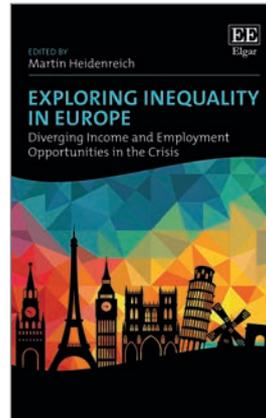
The contributions from experts in the field offer a multi-level perspective. They explore links between objective inequalities and subjective perceptions and frames of reference. They combine the analysis of growing inequalities between different social groups and between central and peripheral countries. Analysis of unemployment and income inequality is based on European-wide micro datasets and the editor argues for both European and national frames of reference for analysis of unemployment and income inequality.

Offering new insights on the increasing unemployment and income inequalities in Europe before and during the current financial and Eurozone crisis, this is a vital text. Anyone interested in the challenges of social cohesion in Europe will find this book a rich, innovative resource.

Contributors include: F. Buttler, M. Heidenreich, C. Ingsiep, S. Israel, J. Preunkert, C. Reimann,

**2016 256 pp Hardback 978 1 78347 665 7 £75.00**

*Elgaronline 978 1 78347 666 4*



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