



Welfare in an Idle Society? Reinventing Retirement, Work, Wealth, Health, and Welfare

Bernd Marin

Ashgate

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**A Primer on Re-Designing Social Security
to Cope with Global Ageing and
21st Century Pension Future:
Austria as a Case in Point**

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ment-oriented, equal-opportunity national welfare state embedded in the global economy. This book is a must-read for welfare state scholars and practitioners.”

Edward Palmer

“This is an excellent overview of some of the most challenging problems facing aging societies. The scope of the book is admirably broad and the analysis is insightful.”

Dennis J. Snower

“An extremely well documented source book on the social and economic conditions of the life course in contemporary society. Marin’s book helps to invent solutions. It shows a way out of intellectual and political stagnation to new concepts of social order and human fulfilment in a phase of fundamental transitions.”

Leopold Rosenmayr

“This looks like an encyclopaedia on pensions, but in reality it is a *tractatus philosophicus* on the future of our welfare society written by a globalized humanist with a powerful thinking and writing.”

Karl Aiginger

“In this excellent book, Bernd Marin offers an in-depth analysis of welfare sustainability ... in a comprehensive comparative European framework of political economy, sociological theory and empirical evidence.”

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“This book combines intensive in-depth analysis of leading examples of countries responding to the challenge of an ageing society along with an impressive sweep of conceptual and empirical analysis comparing countries across the whole of Europe.”

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Endorsements

“A really comprehensive forward-looking study. Bernd Marin not only presents a superb analysis but also entertains new ideas that offer unprecedented possibilities, e.g. NDC. These require the modernization of institutions, which makes rethinking of many concepts and methods developed in the 20th century inevitable. A great book.”

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“*Welfare in an Idle Society?* defies the common opinion that pensions are a highly technical and rather boring subject, and it challenges half-truths about ‘acquired rights’, derived benefits for women and invalidity allowances. The book is a powerful instrument in overcoming pension illiteracy and effectively helping policy makers.”

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“This much-needed comprehensive treatment of social security in ageing societies bridges the deplorable gap between demographic forecasts, which have for long pointed at the challenges, and specific policy changes, which often lag badly behind. It is a big step forward.”

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“Bernd Marin’s new book offers a synthetic analysis of the need for public policy reforms in ageing society, giving insights about how economic sustainability can be mitigated with concerns about gender and health inequities. He also shows how his reform agenda is of wider European relevance – for those of us who are interested in balancing economic integration with social objectives.”

Joakim Palme

“Anyone who is considering reforms to social security or disability insurance systems should read Marin’s book.”

David Wise

“A formidable combination of factual mastery and intellectual imagination. What Marin has done will renew the terms of the debate on pensions and welfare for developed societies.”

Martin Kohli

“This book makes an essential contribution to re-thinking issues of health and welfare at a time of fundamental demographic and occupational change.”

Anthony Giddens

“A milestone contribution to the urgent task of rethinking and redesigning social security – from now on a standard reference.”

Stein Ringen



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