

Endorsements

“With his *Welfare in an Idle Society?* Bernd Marin has set a ‘gold standard’. Congratulations! Nobody who will give new thoughts to re-designing Social Security can go past this encyclopaedic opus.”

Bert Rürup

“Bernd Marin’s monumental, erudite and radical reformulation of the management of older age could not be more timely. Population ageing has already underlined the inadequacy of traditional approaches; the current crisis puts them under an even harsher light. Marin’s profound and detailed analysis leads him to a new synthesis and new solutions which all specialists and policymakers will need to be aware of.”

David Coleman

“An extraordinary book that fascinates by its depth of thought, relevance and multidisciplinary approach. A must-read for anybody interested in pensions ... and highly readable for the broader audience.”

Robert Holzmann

“Bernd Marin’s new book is a likely instant classic and certainly a milestone in the art of designing a pension system for ageing European societies ... Marin’s eloquently presented reform proposal seems unbeatable, economic and political contexts permitting, as an efficient and equitable solution. For both academics and policy practitioners, this makes for delightfully enlightening reading.”

Claus Offe

“A most ambitious undertaking – covering the philosophy, implementation, pitfalls and case studies of pension systems and disability insurance, with particular attention to gender equality. Marin’s book illuminates these issues, which take on added salience in an era of population ageing.”

Estelle James

Welfare in an Idle Society?

“The intergenerational contract is challenged not only by the ageing of populations, but also by the huge public debts inherited from the Great Recession. This book greatly helps us understand how to reform social security in order to make it sustainable. A great read.”

Tito Boeri

“Intellectually capacious, theoretically incisive, empirically rich and policy relevant, this book puts Austria in a broad comparative perspective. A *tour de force*.”

Peter J. Katzenstein

“Bernd Marin builds a passionate argument for the renewal of social security in the twenty-first century on comprehensive documentation and clear theoretical insight: a rare achievement that is certain to revive and transform the weary discussion on the welfare state.”

Abram de Swaan

“Marin provides a brilliant analysis and covers new ideas about invalidity pensions and women’s work and pensions. A book that should be read by everybody who is interested in this topic.”

Friedrich Schneider

“A remarkable, fascinating book! Lots of ideas that take account of demography. A must-read for anyone dealing with welfare and social security.”

Sergei Scherbov

“Marin’s book excels in important respects: given the urgent need for strategic decisions, it is timely, comprehensive, courageous and written with an eye on the underlying socio-political problems.”

Helmut Kramer

“This outstanding book is a great source for anybody interested in the Welfare system and its implications for societies and individuals.”

Rocio Fernández-Ballesteros

“A monumental compendium, written with panache, vast horizon, and deep commitment to fairness ... an indispensable work of reference. This primer should be required reading for all policy makers. Above all, the argument for NDC is convincing.”

Gunther Tichy

“An impressive reference book on the need for welfare state restructuring ... Marin skilfully outlines the contours of a sustainable social policy system. A unique strength of the volume is the attention paid to the complex gender issues that underlie optimal pension design.”

Janet C. Gornick

“This comprehensive and interdisciplinary book discusses how ageing necessitates a re-balancing of the welfare system that can provide sustainable social security in the future. It is highly recommended reading for economists, other social scientists and policy makers alike.”

Christian Keuschnigg

“That there is a looming pensions crisis in almost every advanced society is widely known. But the details of the crisis and, even more, fair and sustainable ways out of it, are hardly understood at all. In this bold and original contribution Bernd Marin adds greatly to our understanding and thinks deeply about likely solutions.”

Colin Crouch

“With admirable scope and thoroughness, this book identifies and addresses the key economic and political issues of work and retirement in an employ-

Welfare in an Idle Society?

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.”

Andreas Kruse

“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.”

Richard Rose

“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.”

Marek Góra

“*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.”

Elsa Fornero

“Bernd Marin provides a thorough analysis of the welfare state and makes interesting suggestions for reforms based on solutions beyond the traditional boundaries of the welfare state and the unbridled free market.”

Ernst Fehr

“This major new contribution to the global debate on pensions should be required reading for all scholars, students and policy makers interested in the future of welfare and employment.”

Alan Walker

“Bernd Marin’s book proposes an alternative design and ‘new guiding principles’ for a ‘sustainable welfare society’. This should serve as a source of aspiration to policy-makers. Far from current gloomy scenarios, the author has shown that an innovative approach can be worked out for turning demographic ageing into an opportunity for modernizing the European social model ... a major contribution.”

Anne-Marie Guillemard

Welfare in an Idle Society?

“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.”

Wolfgang Lutz

“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

Endorsement Affiliations

Karl Aiginger, Director of the Austrian Institute of Economic Research (WIFO) and Professor of Economics at the Vienna University of Economics and Business

Tito Boeri, Professor of Economics, Bocconi University, Milan, Director of the Fondazione Rodolfo De Benedetti, founder of the economic policy watchdog website www.lavoce.info/ and Scientific Director of the Festival of Economics in Trento

David Coleman, Professor of Demography, Fellow of St John's College, Oxford University

Colin Crouch, Professor of Government and Public Management, University of Warwick, 1995–2004 Professor of Comparative Social Institutions at the European University in Florence (EUI), 1985–1994 Professor of Sociology at the University of Oxford

Abram de Swaan, Professor Emeritus of Social Science, University of Amsterdam, winner of the 2008 P.C. Hooft Prize, the most prominent and most cited Dutch sociologist of the 1990s

Ernst Fehr, Professor of Social Microeconomics and Experimental Economics, University of Zürich, Laboratory for Social and Neural Systems Research, recipient of many awards and distinctions, including the 2008 Marcel Benoit Prize, and named a Thomson Reuters Citation Laureate in economics (<http://science.thomsonreuters.com/nobel/>)

Rocio Fernández-Ballesteros, Professor of Social Psychology and Geropsychology, Department of Biopsychology, Autonomous University of Madrid

Elsa Fornero, Professor of Social Economics, University of Torino, Director of the Center for Research on Pensions and Welfare Policies (CeRP), since 16 November 2011 Minister of Labour, Social Policy and Equal Opportunity in the Cabinet of Mario Monti

Welfare in an Idle Society?

Anthony Giddens, London School of Economics and Political Science (LSE,) former Director of the LSE, and Professor of Sociology, University of Cambridge, inventor of the “Third Way”

Marek Góra, Professor at the Warsaw School of Economics (SGH), co-author and team leader of the design for Polish pension reform, Director of the Office of the Government Plenipotentiary for Social Security Reform

Janet C. Gornick, Professor of Political Science and Sociology, City University of New York (CUNY), Director of the Luxembourg Income Study Center, the CUNY Graduate Center

Anne-Marie Guillemard, Professor Emeritus of Sociology at the University of Paris Descartes Sorbonne, honorary member of the Institut Universitaire de France and of the Academia Europaea

Robert Holzmann, The World Bank and Professor of Old Age Protection at the University of Malaya, Kuala Lumpur

Estelle James, Professor Emeritus at SUNY, Stony Brook, former Lead Economist at the World Bank, principal author of the classic 1994 World Bank report *Averting the Old Age Crisis*, international consultant on pensions and social security

Peter J. Katzenstein, Walter S. Carpenter, Jr. Professor of International Studies, Department of Government, Cornell University, 2008–09 President of the American Political Science Association, ranked by the Economist as the most influential scholar in international political economy

Christian Keuschnigg, Professor of Public Economics, University of St Gallen, and Director of the Institute for Advanced Studies (IHS), Vienna

Martin Kohli, Professor of Sociology at the European University Institute (EUI), Florence since 2004, 1977-2004 Freie Universität Berlin, 1997-1999 President of the European Sociological Association

Helmut Kramer, Chairman of the Executive Board of the Austrian Interdisciplinary Platform on Ageing (ÖPIA), Director of the Austrian Institute of Economic Research (WIFO) 1981–2005, Rector of the Danube University Krems 2005–07

Andreas Kruse, Professor of Social Gerontology, University Heidelberg, since 1989 Member, since 1998 Chair of the German Federal Government's Gerontology Commission (Altenberichtskommission)

Wolfgang Lutz, Founding Director of the Wittgenstein Centre for Demography and Global Human Capital (IIASA, VID, WU), Leader, World Population Program (IIASA), Director, Vienna Institute of Demography (VID), Austrian Academy of Sciences, Professor of Applied Statistics and Director of Research Institute on Human Capital and Development (WU – Vienna University of Economics and Business)

Claus Offe, Professor of Political Sociology at the Hertie School of Governance, Professor Emeritus of Political Science, Sociology and Social Policy at Bielefeld, Bremen and the Humboldt University, Berlin

Joakim Palme, Director of the Institute for Future Studies and Professor at the Swedish Institute for Social Research (SOFI), Stockholm University and Uppsala University, 1999–2001 Chair of the Swedish Welfare Commission

Ed Palmer, Professor of Insurance Economics at Uppsala University, Senior Advisor of the Swedish Insurance Agency, architect of the Swedish NDC pension reform model

Stein Ringen, Professor of Sociology and Social Policy and Fellow of Green Templeton College, Oxford University

Richard Rose, Director of the Centre for the Study of Public Policy and Professor of Politics at the University of Aberdeen, 1966–2005 Professor of Politics at the University of Strathclyde

Leopold Rosenmayr, Austrian Academy of Sciences, Professor Emeritus of Sociology and Social Philosophy at the University of Vienna, former Director of the Ludwig Boltzmann Institute for Social Gerontology and Life Cycle Research, Vienna, doyen of research on family, youth and ageing

Bert Rürup, mr-AG, Member (since 2000) and Head (2005–09) of the German Council of Economic Experts (Sachverständigenrat der “Wirtschaftswesen”), 2002–03 Head of the Commission for Sustainability in Financing Social Security (“Rürup Commission”) and of the Expert Commission for the Reorganization of Old Age Taxation, inventor of the “Rürup Pension” (Rürup-Rente), 1976–2009 Professor of Economic Policy and Public Finance at the Technical University of Darmstadt

Sergei Scherbov, Research Group Leader Population Dynamics and Forecasting, Vienna Institute of Demography (VID) at the Austrian Academy of Sciences, Senior Scholar World Population Program, International Institute of Applied Systems Analysis (IIASA), Laxenburg, and Director of Demographic Analysis, Wittgenstein Centre for Demography and Global Human Capital (IIASA, VID, WU)

Friedrich Schneider, Professor of Social Economics and Economic Policy, Johannes Kepler University of Linz

Dennis J. Snower, President of the Kiel Institute for the World Economy, Professor of Economics, Chair of Economic Theory at the Christian-Albrechts-University Kiel

Gunther Tichy, Consultant WIFO, 1992-2012 Austrian Academy of Sciences, Professor Emeritus in Economics, University of Graz

Alan Walker, Professor of Social Policy and Social Gerontology, Director of the New Dynamics of Ageing Programme, University of Sheffield

David A. Wise, John F. Stambough Professor of Political Economy, John F. Kennedy School of Government, Harvard University, and National Bureau of Economic Research (NBER)