

EDITED BY  
**Andreas Bieler**  
**Vincenzo Maccarrone**

**EE**  
Elgar

# CRITICAL POLITICAL ECONOMY OF THE EUROPEAN POLYCRISIS



# CRITICAL POLITICAL ECONOMY OF THE EUROPEAN POLYCRISIS

*'Critical Political Economy of the European Polycrisis is a clear-eyed and incisive account of how the multiple overlapping crises facing European capitalism are exacerbating the inherent contradictions of the European project.*

*The critical political economy lens used by the authors allows them to highlight the challenges facing Europe's elites as they attempt to resolve these crises without upsetting the balance of power within European civil society. An important contribution to the understanding of capitalism in Europe and the institutions tasked with managing it.'*

Grace Blakeley, staff writer at *Tribune Magazine* and author of *Vulture Capitalism: Corporate Crimes, Backdoor Bailouts and the Death of Freedom*

*'Notwithstanding the hopes that the pandemic would bring about a more solidaristic approach, this book shows the continuous dominance of neoliberal politics and policies. Not only the recent Re-Arm project testifies of the abandonment of a vision of a peaceful Europe, but competition and exclusion emerge on central issues going from health to labour and from energy to the environment. Besides describing the neoliberal developments, Critical Political Economy of the European Polycrisis helps however in uncovering the potential resistance to intersectional inequalities by singling out its classed, gendered and racialised dynamics.'*

Donatella Della Porto, Professor and Director of Centre of Social Movements Studies, Scuola Normale Superiore, Firenze, Italy

This book analyses the intertwined crises facing the European Union within their global context through the lens of critical political economy. Challenging conventional narratives of European integration, it explores the power structures, inequalities, and socio-political implications that underpin modern European politics.

Expert authors examine the many factors contributing to the European polycrisis, from the global financial crisis and the COVID-19 pandemic to the impending climate catastrophe. Illustrating how new disruptions have intensified existing issues, they assess how the polycrisis has shaped policies, policy-making and institutions across Europe. The book evaluates the role of gendered and racist oppression in processes of European integration, as well as the impact of the rise of the far right. Combining feminist, decolonial and ecological perspectives with a focus on exploitation and class, it demonstrates how the EU transforms and is being transformed by its position in the global political economy.

*Critical Political Economy of the European Polycrisis* is an essential read for students and scholars of political economy, European politics and international relations. It is also a valuable resource for policymakers involved in negotiating the many crises faced by the EU.

Andreas Bieler is Professor of Political Economy in the School of Politics and International Relations at the University of Nottingham, UK and Vincenzo Maccarrone is Marie Skłodowska-Curie Postdoctoral Fellow at Scuola Normale Superiore, Italy.

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**Edward Elgar**  
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*Professor of Political Economy, School of Politics and  
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Vincenzo Maccarrone

*Marie Skłodowska-Curie Postdoctoral Fellow, Scuola Normale  
Superiore, Italy*

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# Contents

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<i>List of contributors</i>	viii
<i>Acknowledgements</i>	xiv
1 Contesting European integration in times of polycrisis: an introduction <i>Andreas Bieler and Vincenzo Maccarrone</i>	1
PART I CRITICAL POLITICAL ECONOMY OF THE POLYCRISIS OF THE EUROPEAN UNION	
2 Towards a critical political economy of migration, borders, and racism in the European Union <i>Nikolai Huke</i>	16
3 Europe's new fiscal governance in context: a state-theoretical perspective <i>Magnus Ryner</i>	32
4 The new EU industrial policy mitigating the investment crisis: crowding in financial capital and crowding out democracy and labour <i>Angela Wigger</i>	46
5 Mandatory corporate sustainability due diligence and its limitations: the persistence of unequal exchange <i>Riccardo Fornasari and Vincenzo Maccarrone</i>	62
6 The housing crisis and the contradictions of neoliberal residential capitalism in Europe: a critical approach <i>Giuseppe Montalbano and Lindsay B. Flynn</i>	76

PART II		CRITICAL POLITICAL ECONOMY OF THE POLYCRISIS IN AND BEYOND THE EUROPEAN UNION	
7	A feminist political economy approach to affordable housing and social reproduction in the polycrisis <i>Stefanie Wöhl</i>	93	
8	Healthcare systems commodification between national and EU economic governance: Greece, Italy, and Romania from the economic to the COVID-19 crisis (2008–2022) <i>Costanza Galanti and Stella Christou</i>	107	
9	Crises, conditionality, and the commodification of local public services: the case of Italy <i>Darragh Golden</i>	129	
10	Garment-footwear industry and the devaluation of labour: uneven and combined production networks in Europe's peripheries <i>Francesco Bagnardi</i>	145	
PART III		CRITICAL POLITICAL ECONOMY OF THE EUROPEAN ECOLOGICAL CRISIS	
11	The EU between neoliberal and reformist green finance: a regulationist and global perspective <i>Ewa Dziwok and Johannes Jäger</i>	162	
12	Solving the European crisis in social reproduction? Sustainability and justice in the European semester after the Green Deal <i>Rosalind Cavaghan</i>	176	
13	Derogating, de-risking, and pooling: processes of Energy Union (dis)integration <i>Rubén Vezzoni</i>	193	
PART IV		CRITICAL POLITICAL ECONOMY OF EUROPEAN FOREIGN POLICY	
14	Greening the European economy at the expense of other world regions? Tracing the EU's quest for green hydrogen in Chile <i>Julia Eder and Jakob Rammer</i>	209	

15	Driving unequal exchange: EU 'free trade' policy and the EU-Mercosur negotiations <i>Andreas Bieler</i>	225
16	Re-routing globalization: polycrisis, Europe's decline and the crisis of Atlanticism <i>Alan W. Cafruny and Vassilis K. Fouskas</i>	240
17	Turkey's EU membership debate within a historical conjuncture of European polycrisis <i>Elif Uzgören</i>	256
PART V CRITICAL POLITICAL ECONOMY OF THE RISE OF THE FAR RIGHT IN EUROPE		
18	The road to God-knows where? The polycrisis and the European radical right <i>Owen Worth</i>	274
19	A lasting legacy? A critical political economy perspective on Berlusconi and its afterlives <i>Daniela Caterina, Adriano Cozzolino, Gemma Gasseau and Davide Monaco</i>	289
20	Constructing illiberal counterhegemony: Orbán's transnational project as consequence and cause of Europe's polycrisis <i>Jasper P. Simons, Miklós Sebők and Ilona Szabó</i>	304
21	Conclusion: where next for the EU? <i>Andreas Bieler and Vincenzo Maccarrone</i>	319
	<i>Index</i>	328