Preface and acknowledgements

This book has had a long gestation period. In 2004, I published a German textbook presenting an introductory overview of the theories of distribution and growth, with chapters on Adam Smith and David Ricardo, Karl Marx, the neoclassical approach, post-Keynesian contributions, and some basic Kaleckian models in particular (Hein 2004a). All this was based on my research and teaching in the area of distribution and growth during the 1990s and early 2000s.

Since the early 2000s, Kaleckian models of distribution and growth have become increasingly popular as ‘workhorse’ models in post-Keynesian macroeconomics and in research in the areas of distribution and growth in particular. Since then, these models have been developed and refined to a considerable degree, they have been applied to a variety of research areas and questions and they have increasingly been used as theoretical foundations for empirical research. I am quite happy to have contributed a bit to this development. Therefore, about five years after the publication of the first edition, I felt that my German book would need an update. Furthermore, my teaching of distribution and growth classes, which had been in German since the early 1990s, switched to English when I joined the Berlin School of Economics and Law in 2009. This gave the final impetus and made me plan to publish a revised English translation of my German book. However, when I started on the realization of this plan at the beginning of my sabbatical semester 2012/13, I had to acknowledge that given the available material this was unfeasible. Therefore, I decided to skip the presentation of classical as well as Marx’s and Marxian contributions in particular, because I had not followed the development of these approaches closely enough since the early 2000s and because there were other eminent books on the market covering these approaches. I chose to write a new book on distribution and growth after Keynes, which would focus on an in-depth study and presentation of the main contributions to distribution and growth theories after Keynes in the early chapters and on the gradual development of Kaleckian distribution and growth models, including an overview of the results of empirical applications, in the later chapters. This change in plan meant a delay in final publication of roughly 12 months, which was also due to other teaching and
research commitments after the six months’ sabbatical. I hope that it was worthwhile.

In preparing the later chapters of this book, I could draw and build on several of my publications in journals and books to different degrees, although without reproducing any of them in full or in detail:

- **Chapter 7**

- **Chapter 8**

- **Chapter 9**

- **Chapter 10**


- Chapter 11


I am most grateful to the referees, editors and publishers of these journals and books. Most importantly, however, I would like to thank my co-authors Lena Vogel (now Dräger), Engelbert Stockhammer, Lucas Graf, Artur Tarassow, Christian Schoder, Marc Lavoie and Till van Treeck for fruitful collaborations in producing our joint papers and for comments and discussions on some of the other papers mentioned above. I am also grateful for comments and suggestions on some of the works listed above to Philip Arestis, Giorgos Argitis, Amit Bhaduri, Laurent Cordonnier, Thomas Dallery, Amitava Dutt, Claudio Sardoni, Malcolm Sawyer, Mark Setterfield, Peter Skott, Andranik Tangian, Achim Truger, Robert Vergeer and Rudolf Zwiener. Furthermore, I have benefited from the discussions of some of the works at conferences and seminars in Amsterdam, Berlin, Bilbao, Bremen, Cambridge (UK), Chemnitz, Dijon, Düsseldorf, Hohenheim, Kansas City, Lille, London, Oldenburg, Ottawa, Paris, Pisa, Rome, Roskilde, Salt Lake City and Vienna in the course of recent years, and I would like to thank the participants in these events, too.

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of the chapters, provided insightful comments and patiently prevented me from making silly mistakes in the presentation of simple models. I am also most grateful to Henriette Heinze and Matthias Mundt, who assisted me in the editing process, read the whole manuscript, compiled the list of variables and checked the references and quotations. Furthermore, I am grateful to the staff of Edward Elgar for their reliable support throughout this project, and to the Berlin School of Economics and Law for providing the required resources. It goes without saying that none of the people mentioned should be held responsible for any remaining errors in this book. For these I am alone responsible.

Finally, I would like to express my thanks and gratitude to the students who have attended my seminars on distribution and growth during the last two decades – at the Free University of Berlin, at Carl von Ossietzky University Oldenburg, at the University of Hamburg, at the Berlin School of Economics and Law and at the summer schools of the Research Network Macroeconomics and Macroeconomic Policies (FMM). I am most grateful for the comments and discussions in class, which have forced me to clarify my thoughts and the presentations which have gone into this book. I hope that the final product will be a useful Post-Keynesian Guide for present and future generations of students, as well as for colleagues and researchers interested in the issues of Distribution and Growth after Keynes.

Eckhard Hein
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