

# Preface

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This book is written for laypersons that are interested in economic ideas but haven't studied the subject in any formal manner. While economic terms (jargon) are used throughout, every attempt has been made to simplify and explain them to maximise meaning and comprehension. The book aims to provide an alternative viewpoint to empower people with a progressive bent to challenge the current austerity mantra that is causing the European nations to stagnate with high unemployment and increasing poverty rates. The underlying assumption is that the political process has been captured by powerful and wealthy elites, who exploit our lack of understanding of economics to impose policies that undermine prosperity and redistribute income and wealth to the few at the top. Without a thorough exposure of the neo-liberal economic myths relating to deficits and debt, there is little chance that progressives will be able to gain traction against this neo-liberal attack on people's rights and prosperity.

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The overall project is dedicated however to the millions of nameless unemployed workers who have been denied the opportunity to live fulfilled lives by the implementation of flawed neo-liberal economic policy abetted by orthodox economists who unfortunately bear none of the costs of their folly.

While many have offered help and advice, all errors remain the responsibility of the author.

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