

# Acknowledgements

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This volume conveys the main findings of the COST Action IS1102 *SO.S. COHESION – Social services, welfare states and places: the restructuring of social services in Europe and its impact on social and territorial cohesion and governance*, which ran from 21 November 2011 to 30 April 2016. The Action was coordinated by Flavia Martinelli at the Mediterranean University of Reggio Calabria and involved 24 countries, over 40 research and university institutions and about 90 researchers and scholars in Europe.

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And we're in the middle of a 'perfect storm'. These days, government social services are being bad-mouthed and de-funded. The non-profit world is looking more and more like the for-profit world. The growing gap between rich and poor makes most of us very anxious about where we stand.

(Arlie Hochschild in an interview for *AlterNet*, August 2012)

