

Acknowledgements

My biggest thanks go to Dr May-Britt U. Stumbaum and Prof Dr Miranda Schreurs, for their valuable suggestions and help in writing this book. Advice given by Prof Dr Tanja A. Börzel, Prof Dr Thomas Risse, Dr Robert Falkner, Prof Jeffrey Checkel, Dr Jizhou Zhao, Anja Lutz and many others has been a great help in determining my research direction.

My special thanks go to Dr Diarmuid Torney, Dr Garima Mohan, Dr Nina Hall, Dr Israel Solorio Sandoval and Dr Jost Wübbecke for their time and patience to discuss my questions and ideas for this book and for being such great friends and mentors.

The book has strongly benefited from interviews with policy-makers and representatives of business, non-government organizations, and academia in the European Union and Asia-Pacific carried out from 2012 to 2016. I am grateful to all those interviewed who devoted their time to share their knowledge with me, but since anonymity was promised in most cases, their help cannot be acknowledged individually.

I am most grateful to my partner, my friends and family whose love and empathy gave me the confidence to realize my ideas. I owe most gratitude to my parents, my brother and my grandparents for their persistent support and trust from near and far.