Acknowledgments

The most fascinating aspect of our work is being in contact with people who are sometimes truly exceptional, who contribute to enriching and improving our thinking. The dialogue in which we are involved as law professors and researchers is an experience of continuous growth both in our studies and our lives.

The exchange of ideas, cultures, sensibilities and experiences between different people, in different countries, in various contexts, is the engine of the research carried out for this book during the last three years.

We have greatly benefited from the insights and ideas provided by international academics, colleagues and students about the topic of the relationship between government and society and especially on public private partnering. Some of these colleagues are part of our everyday life, others are unaware they have contributed to our reflections with their works.

We would therefore like to take this opportunity to express our heartfelt gratitude to all the leading academics, researchers, colleagues, practitioners and students, in presence or in spirit, who have supported, encouraged and inspired our research with their writings.

In particular, we would like to acknowledge the benefits we received from the interactions and networking of the European Association of Public Private Partnership – EAPPP, established in Milan in 2016, which has been essential for this book because it inspired the idea of combining a strong theoretical background to actual case studies on the use of public private partnership in the world. A special thanks goes to those who joined us as founding members of EAPPP: Professors Annamaria La Chimia from the University of Nottingham; Raquel Carvalho from the Universidade Católica Portuguesa – Centro Regional do Porto; Ymre Schuurmans from Leiden University; Francesco Goisis from the University of Milan; Mauro Renna from the Catholic University of Milan; Adriana Spassova and the Bulgarian Society of Construction Law; Alessandra Canuti and Luca La Camera, Attorneys at Law; Maria Rita Surano, Attorney at Law and guardian angel, all special colleagues and friends.

Part of our inspiration also came from the amazing place where we live, Milan, which in the last decade has grown very fast, thanks to the efforts of businesses and the local administration. We met excellent public managers there. Among the many, a special thanks for the energy they spend in improv-
ing public value in public private partnership goes to Christian Malangone, city manager, Filippo Salucci, director of environmental transition, Francesco Tarricone, director of social housing, Mariangela Zaccaria, deputy secretary of the Municipality, and Salvatore Barbara, who leads the concession for the two new subway lines under construction in Milan.

We have also benefited from the interactions with the Public Procurement Research Group of Nottingham University, led by Professor Sue Arrowsmith, from the talks with Professors Christopher Yukins and Steven Schooner from the George Washington University, and with Professors Richard Stewart and Katrina Wyman from the New York University School of Law: their pragmatic attitude made us look at juridical structures in terms of ‘simple’ tools to help innovation and growth.

The spread of research activities allowed us to listen to hundreds of speeches and get in touch with extraordinary human beings, such as Professors Steven Kelman, Jody Freeman and Cass Sunstein, leading scholars and generous minds. We also had the chance to start important relationships and friendships, like the one with Professor David Mosey, from King’s College, London, whose persistence and love for law are a precious example of integrity and passion.

Finally, a special thanks also goes to all the students of the course on Public Private Partnership for Sustainable Development, held at the faculty of law of the University of Milan: we are grateful for all questions and contributions they have made during classes.

Milan, 30 June 2019