## Acknowledgements

This book is the final outcome of two seminars. The first one ('Coping with Social Risks: Capabilities and/or Transition Securities?') was held at the Wissenschaftszentrum zu Berlin (WZB) on 7 June 2007, initiated and organised by Robert Salais, then guest researcher at the WZB, and Günther Schmid (WZB). The second one ('Governing Social Policy in Europe: the Promotion of Capabilities and Transitional Labour Markets') was held in Venice at the Palazzo Pesaro-Papafava (University of Warwick) on 10–11 April, 2008, organised by Noel Whiteside (University of Warwick) as part of the ESRC Seminar Series, *Coping with Uncertainty: European labour markets and the politics of social reform in comparative perspective* (RES 451-26-0429) and sponsored by Warwick University's Institute for Advanced Study. We wish to thank all institutions and sponsors involved for their support and help in organising these seminars.

We also acknowledge support from the European Commission's 6th Framework Programme project CAPRIGHT *Resources, rights and capabilities: in search of social foundations for Europe* (contract no. 028549-2). Discussions within this project over developing the capabilities approach have created the background for findings presented in several chapters of this book. The views expressed in these chapters are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect legal or political views of the European Commission, and the European Commission is not responsible for any use that might be made of the information presented in this publication.

We wish to thank Dr Alice Mah for editorial assistance, Falk Maede-Heck for help with the index and Amy Margaret Morley and Victoria Surtees for help with translations.