Acknowledgements

The present book is the outcome of the efforts of 19 contributors, and the editors would like to express their warmest gratitude to all of them. It is only because of their commitment and trust that this interdisciplinary book has been possible.

In particular, the editors would like to thank Dr Martin Deleixhe, who, as a senior member of the Centre of Excellence Research Programme ‘Global Governance and Democratic Government’ of our Leuven Centre for Global Governance Studies, paved the way for the conceptual and normative foundations of this volume. Together with the other junior and senior researchers involved in our research programme, Martin initiated this book project in 2016. Among the first authors who contributed to this project from 2016, we would like to thank Professor Dr Pierre Dardot, Professor Dr Maarja Beerkens, Christiaan Boonen, Nicolás Brando, Professor Dr Thomas Eimer, Maja Groff, Rutger Hagen, and Professor Dr Sylvia Karlsson-Vinkhuyzen.

In 2017, as part of the same Centre of Excellence Research Programme, Global Governance Studies organized a high-level Spring Lecture Series ‘Interdisciplinary Approaches to Global Commons and Global Public Goods’ with distinguished guest speakers who all shared their perspectives on the commons as a new model of global governance. This lecture series drew together leading academic voices on the commons, among whom were Professor Dr Jutta Brunnée, Professor Dr Ugo Mattei, and Dr Pierre Sauvêtre, who each contributed a chapter to this volume afterwards. We also had the honour of welcoming Michel Bauwens and Professor Dr Tine De Moor, to whom we express our deepest gratitude for accepting to write the foreword, resp. afterword to this book and for encouraging us to look further in the direction of the commons as an institutional model of collective action at the global level. We would also like to thank Professor Dr Olivier De Schutter for agreeing to contribute a chapter on international law and the commons based on his experience as a former United Nations Special Rapporteur on the right to food.

This book was made possible within the framework of the Centre of Excellence Research Programme on ‘Global Governance and Democratic Government’ funded by the KU Leuven Special Research Fund (Bijzonder
The commons and a new global governance

Onderzoeksfonds, BOF). This programme, conducted jointly by the Leuven Centre for Global Governance Studies and the Centre for Ethics, Social and Political Philosophy at KU Leuven, is aimed at the construction of a new paradigm for democratic global governance. It is managed by an interdisciplinary group of promoters, some of whom have also contributed to this book: Professor Dr Christophe Crombez (political economy), Professor Dr Helder De Schutter (political philosophy), and Professor Dr Jan Wouters (international law). We would like to acknowledge Nils Vanstappen, who, although he did not contribute a chapter, was instrumental in the organization of the aforementioned events and in commenting on various chapters of this volume.

Last but not least, we would like to thank Alex Andrione-Moylan, who reviewed the English language of this edition, which was necessary for a book that brings together prominent authors from non-English countries.

It is especially gratifying to us, editors, to see that our collaborative efforts have been rewarded by the present collection of chapters, which all try to capture, from different academic perspectives, the fascinating potential of the commons as a new model of governance at the global level.

Samuel Cogolati and Jan Wouters
Leuven, 2018