Preface

The European financial sector today is subject to a highly complex and fragmented legal framework which includes both public and private law instruments. Yet the relationship between such instruments within the EU multi-level system of governance has been under-investigated, particularly on the remedial front. The boundaries within law (notably between EU and national law, between public and private law, or even between commercial and private law) as well as between the law and other disciplines still pose significant obstacles to our understanding of this relationship. This book is part of a broader project 'Towards Sustainable Financial Practices' launched within the Groningen Centre for European Financial Services Law (GCEFSL) of the University of Groningen to foster innovative interdisciplinary research in the field of European financial law.

The focus on the interplay between EU financial regulation and civil liability provided the theme for a collaborative project that brought together both senior and young outstanding scholars from a variety of countries, including Belgium, Germany, Italy, the Netherlands, Norway, and the UK. The chapters in this volume represent a selection of the many compelling papers presented at the meeting of the research group in Amsterdam in November 2017 that was organised by the GCEFSL in collaboration with the Institute of Advanced Legal Studies (IALS), University of London. The preliminary findings of the book project were further discussed in Groningen in October 2018.

We are immensely grateful to all those who have made this project possible. We would like to thank the authors contributing to this volume for their enthusiastic participation in the discussion and insightful essays. Our thanks also go to those who contributed to the project as speakers, discussants or referees, notably Kern Alexander, Jan de Bie Leuveling Tjeenk, Paul Davies, Gudula Deipenbrock, Jan Paul Franx, Fernando Gómez, Alexandra Andhov (Horváthová), Loes Lennarts, Florian Möslin, Charlotte Pavillon, Pietro Sirena, Michel Tison, Femke de Vries, and Mark Wissink. Last but not least, we would like to acknowledge the support and encouragement of the publisher, Edward Elgar.

We hope that this book will further stimulate 'out-of-the-box' thinking and ultimately lead to new breakthroughs in our understanding of the role of civil

liability, and private law remedies more generally, as a regulatory and compensatory tool in European financial law and beyond.

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