

Markus Pausch [ed.]

# Perspectives for Europe

Historical Concepts and Future Challenges



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## Foreword by the editor

This book is the result of the international conference “Ideas for the Future of Europe”, which took place at the Salzburg University of Applied Sciences in 2019 in the run-up to the EU elections. In addition to the conference speakers, other experts were also invited to contribute to the book. Of course, no claim can be made to completeness, because history and the present are full of countless ideas and concepts about Europe. In this book, relevant aspects are picked out and discussed. These range from historical overview articles and theoretical debates to empirically detailed articles, concrete problems and strategic perspectives.

The authors come from different scientific disciplines and adopt different approaches. After an introductory historical overview by the editor, Alessandro Bresolin describes in detail the debates on the question of federalism as opposed to the principle of unionism. Nedžad Mocevic then considers the much-discussed relationship between Islam and Europe, using many historical references to their close connections. In the next article, Werner Weidenfeld reflects on ways to overcome the strategic crisis of the European Union and escape from the present lack of a strategic voice. Rut Bermejo then addresses burning issues of the European future with regard to migration and the relationship between Europe and Africa. In a further article, Zoe Lefkofridi analyses party political developments in Europe with regard to the danger of strengthening anti-European forces and a possible disintegration of the Union. Tamara Ehs shows how democratization of Europe can be achieved through the judicial system. Finally, I conclude the anthology with an article on polarisation and democratic innovations.

As editor, I would like to thank Mr Carsten Rehbein for supervising the volume on Nomos. Special thanks also go to the Salzburg University of Applied Sciences, which is providing financial support for this publication.

It is my hope that the articles in this anthology will enrich the debate on the future of the European Union.

*Prof Dr Markus Pausch*



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