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## **SOCIAL POLICY AND SUSTAINABILITY: A MULTIDIMENSIONAL PERSPECTIVE**



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## **FOREWORD**

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The twenty-first century has emerged as an era characterized by both growing wealth and the persistence of extreme poverty. It is an era of transformation in which economic, social, environmental, and technological crises feed into one another and become increasingly interconnected. If the state attempts to address every problem on its own, it will inevitably fall behind the dynamics of society. Undoubtedly, the twentieth century was a golden age of prosperity; however, poverty, unemployment, inequality, and fiscal challenges were not fully resolved and have continued into the present. It should also be noted that these problems and emerging crises are becoming increasingly entrenched.

In today's world, social policy is undergoing profound and rapid changes that permeate every aspect of human life. Rising economic inequalities, the transformation of working life through technology and digitalization, the unequal impacts of the climate crisis, the surge in mental health problems, and the growing care needs of aging populations are testing the resilience of societies. These developments clearly demonstrate that social policy must evolve beyond being merely a tool for reducing poverty, becoming instead a realm of trust and hope that puts people at its center and strengthens justice, equal opportunity, and social solidarity.

This book reflects on the sustainable role of traditional social policy in the face of enduring crises and the transformations of our age. It discusses how today's social and economic problems are changing and how social policy can evolve within this transformation towards an urgent, fair, and inclusive approach to sustainability. The real success of social policy depends not only on public responsibility, but also on the active participation of the private sector and civil society as transformative forces.

I would like to express my sincere gratitude to the authors who supported me through their valuable contributions in preparing this book. I am also deeply grateful to my teachers and professors who have supported and guided me throughout my academic journey, to my close friends who have been by my side, and to the entire team at Filiz Kitabevi Publishing for their dedicated commitment to advancing scientific knowledge.

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Abdulhalim Çelik

Editor

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