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The Challenges of Self-Employment in Europe

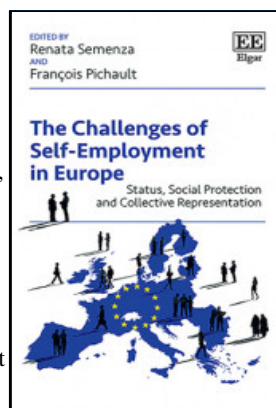
Status, Social Protection and Collective Representation

Edited by Renata Semenza, Professor of Economic Sociology, University of Milan, Italy and François Pichault, Professor of Human Resource Management, University of Liege, Belgium

This book aims at explaining the variance in legal status, working conditions, social protection and collective representation of self-employed professionals across Europe. Despite considerable diversity, the authors observe three strategic models of mobilisation: the provision of services; advocacy, lobbying and the political role; and the extension of collective bargaining. They highlight the new urgent challenges that have emerged including the implementation of universal social protection schemes, active labour market policies likely to support sustainable self-employment, and the renewal of social dialogue through bottom-up organisations to extend the collective representation of project-based professionals.

'This book has no rival in its field. It is by a long shot the most comprehensive, informative, and in-depth treatment of how different European nations adapt to, provide social support for, and legally regulate the burgeoning class of highly qualified self-employed professionals. This volume highlights one of the many challenges facing the new post-industrial order, and it does so with aplomb.'

— Gøsta Esping-Andersen, Pompeu Fabra University, Spain and Bocconi University, Italy



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