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Felix Roth

Public Support for the Euro

Essays on Labor Productivity, Monetary
Economics, and Political Economy,
Vol. 2

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Preface

The long-term sustainability of the euro and the Economic and Monetary Union (EMU) depends heavily on their ability to attract widespread public support. The support shown for the euro throughout its first two decades has helped to shield it against populist attempts at the national level to dismantle the common currency. It has granted political legitimacy to the presidents of the European Central Bank to do “whatever it takes” whenever a serious crisis has threatened the viability of the euro.

This book is the second of two open-access volumes presenting a selection of my essays on Labor Productivity, Monetary Economics and Political Economy. They are drawn from the second part of my habilitation in economics on the topic of *Intangible Capital and Labor Productivity Growth and Determinants of Public Support for the Euro*, which I completed in June 2020 at the department of economics at the faculty of Business, Economics and Social Sciences at the University of Hamburg. This second volume contains 11 chapters, which follow a reverse chronological order, starting with my most recent research output in chapter one. The essays in the individual chapters were selected with the aim of providing an overview of my research to date on public support for and the economics and political economy of the euro and EMU.

On the one hand, five of the chapters present articles of mine that have already appeared in the *Journal of Common Market Studies*, *Journal of European Integration*, *Intereconomics* and as a contribution to an edited volume published by Routledge (Chapters 1, 2, 4, 6 and 11, respectively). On the other hand, the essays in Chapters 5, 9 and 10 make available unpublished material based on original project reports of mine. Chapters 3, 7 and 8 represent my policy contributions to *VoxEU* and *Intereconomics*. In particular, in Chapters 9, 10 and 11, the reader should keep in mind the proximity of the original publication date to the then recent financial and sovereign debt crisis.

This volume would not have been possible without the thoughtful mentoring and strong support generously given by Thomas Straubhaar, to whom I am deeply grateful. He acted as a reporting reviewer in my Habilitation Committee and encouraged me to publish the selected essays in this book. In addition, I would

like to thank Lars Jonung and Felicitas Nowak-Lehmann D. for their constant support as mentors and co-authors. The frequent discussions with Lars have impressed upon me the key importance of public support for the long-term survival of the euro and EMU. The discussions with Felicitas helped me to gain a thorough understanding of the panel-time series FE-DFGLS estimator. In addition, I would like to thank Mary O'Mahony and Erich Gundlach for acting as reporting reviewers in my Habilitation Committee, Katharina Manderscheid for chairing the Committee and Elisabeth Allgoewer and Ulrich Fritsche for their participation in its proceedings. I gratefully acknowledge the European Commission, Stiftung Mercator, the Bertelsmann Foundation and the Austrian Ministry of Finance for funding research projects that led on to my research agenda on public support for the euro and the economics and political economy of the euro and the EMU. I would also like to thank Aisada Most, Anne Harrington and Lorraine Klimowich for excellent assistance and support in helping me to organise and design the layout of this volume. Finally, I would like to extend warm thanks to my family for their kind and generous encouragement.

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January 2022

About the Author

Since 2017, Felix Roth has been a Senior Research Fellow and Senior Lecturer with the Chair for International Economics in the Department of Economics at the University of Hamburg. In June 2020, he successfully completed his German Habilitation in economics on the topic of *Intangible Capital and Labour Productivity Growth and Determinants of Public Support for the Euro*. Prior to his appointment at the University of Hamburg, he worked six years as a Research Fellow in the macroeconomic policy unit and as editor of the journal *Intereconomics* at the Centre for European Policy Studies (CEPS) in Brussels. In addition to his ongoing research association with the department of economics at the University of Göttingen, he worked as a Research Fellow, Scientific Expert, and Economic Policy Advisor for the European Commission in Brussels for over three years. He pursued his doctorate in economics on the topic *Social Capital, Trust and Economic Growth—A Cross-Sectional and Panel Analysis* at the University of Göttingen in the framework of a post-graduate program funded by the Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft (DFG) and jointly supervised by the University of Göttingen and the London School of Economics and Political Science. He studied economics, sociology and European law at the University of Munich where he received his Diploma in Social Sciences in 2003. Dr. Roth has published his research in monographs and collective volumes produced by internationally renowned academic publishing houses, such as Springer, Routledge and Edward Elgar; in leading academic journals in his field, such as *Review of Income and Wealth* and *Journal of Common Market Studies*; and in a wide range of policy contributions, e.g., *VoxEU* and *Intereconomics*. Visit his personal homepage at: <https://www.felixroth.net>.

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