



Winfried Schmähl (Ed.)

Redefining the  
Process of Retirement  
*An International  
Perspective*

With Contributions by

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## Foreword

Retirement has been and is the subject of considerable debate in many countries. In particular this debate has concentrated on the conflict between short and long term policy objectives, those of the labour market and those of the social security system. Earlier or later retirement, full or partial retirement are themes which continually appear.

This book contains revised versions of a series of papers presented at a conference organised by the editor and held in West Berlin in October 1987. The conference was attended by economists, lawyers, sociologists and administrators from universities and research institutes, ministries and social security authorities, trade unions and employers' organisations. I should like to thank the Commission of the European Communities (Directorate General V) and the State Minister for Health and Social Security of Berlin without whose financial support the conference would not have been possible, all others who helped with the arrangements and the contributors, whose papers can now be made available to a wider audience.

I hope the acquaintance with the experiences of the variety of countries considered here will stimulate further discussion and the search for economically and politically satisfactory solutions to a set of common problems whose importance can only increase as our societies begin to age.

Berlin, May 1989

Winfried Schmähl

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