

# Part II

## Constructing a Modern Episteme

Part II offers a Foucauldian treatment of historical and economic developments that led to the dominance of neoliberalism at the beginning of the twenty-first century. Economics is an important element of this story, but development of fiscal military states and the resulting contests of power dominated twentieth-century development, and the questions of the resulting imbalances of power and wealth have yet to be fully addressed. The victory of free market liberal democracies in the two World Wars and the Cold War helped set the stage for neoliberal dominance of economic policies from the 1980s onwards; it also helped set the stage for the 2008 GFC and its aftermath. It is critically important that we look to rebalancing the biopolitical forces identified by Foucault and apply modern social science advances to help policy-makers achieve this end.

This part analyses issues and describes measures needed in the areas of global and national governance identified broadly in Part I. These key issues are: First, to establish a balanced view of macroeconomic management subject to well-organized professional debate and communicated clearly to the public. Second, to develop a socially valid measurement of well-being and a strategy for implementing mechanisms of accountability for social value management in all private and public entities. Third, fundamental issues of social justice and inequality must be recognized by all levels of government, and programs to maintain progress in reducing inequality must be put in place subject to regular national and international review. Fourth, national

and global mechanisms must be put in place to manage the environment responsibly while maintaining welfare growth and stability. These issues are closely linked, though not set in order of relative importance: all demand sustained global and national attention.