



Unequal Europe: Social Divisions in an Old Continent (Routledge Advances in European Politics)

By James Wickham

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This wide-ranging and comparative text reviews the major theoretical and substantive debates on social inequality in Europe. It provides a valuable dual focus on European society and individual societies while placing Europe in its wider global context.

Demonstrating the continued importance of national difference within Europe, the author argues that nonetheless the European Social Model has softened social inequalities such as those of wealth and income distribution, social class, gender and possibly even ethnicity. However these achievements are now being undermined, partially by the European Union itself. The book also challenges conventional wisdom on Europe's alleged need for immigration and highlights the UK's distinctiveness within Europe, explaining the country's uneasy relation to the European project.

This book will be of great interest to students and scholars of Politics, European Societies, Social Policy and Comparative Studies.

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Editorial Review

Review

'In November 1993, 28 countries, now containing over five hundred million people, joined to form the European Union (EU). People, goods, and money then moved freely within the EU. In 2002, a common currency, the euro, was introduced. Wickham, of the Dublin think tank Tasc, focuses on two issues: inequality within and between the 28 member nations, and the degree to which individuals in each nation feel that they are part of the larger EU. **Summing Up: Recommended.**' -D. Harper, *University of Rochester, in CHOICE*

About the Author

James Wickham leads the Working Conditions in Ireland project at the Dublin think tank Tasc. He was also Jean Monnet Professor of European Labour Market Studies and Professor in Sociology at Trinity College Dublin, Ireland.

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