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Edited by Engin F. Isin and Michael Saward
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Enacting European Citizenship

What does it mean to be a European citizen? The rapidly changing politics of citizenship in the face of migration, diversity, heightened concerns about security and financial and economic crises, has left European citizenship as one of the major political and social challenges to European integration. *Enacting European Citizenship* develops a distinctive perspective on European citizenship and its impact on European integration by focusing on ‘acts’ of European citizenship. The authors examine a broad range of cases – including those of the Roma, Sinti, Kurds, sex workers, youth and other ‘minorities’ or marginalised peoples – to illuminate the ways in which the institutions and practices of European citizenship can hinder as well as enable claims for justice, rights and equality. This book draws the key themes together to explore what the limitations and possibilities of European citizenship might be.

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Preface

Our goal in this book has been to develop a distinctive perspective on the emerging European citizenship and its impact on European integration. The rapidly changing politics of citizenship in the face of migration, diversity, heightened concerns about security and financial and economic crises has positioned European citizenship at the forefront of political and social challenges to European integration. The book arises from a three-year project (2008–10) called Enacting European Citizenship, funded by the European Commission under its Seventh Framework Programme (FP7), Social Sciences and Humanities (SSH) section and directed by Engin Isin. The project, known as ENACT, was led by the Open University in the UK and included researchers from Radboud University (Nijmegen, Netherlands), Central European University (Budapest, Hungary), Koç University (Istanbul, Turkey), The Centre for European Policy Studies (Brussels, Belgium) and Riga Graduate School of Law (Riga, Latvia).

The book's perspective on European citizenship is built upon a focus on 'acts' of European citizenship, not least acts of those whose citizenship is precarious and contested. A series of investigations into Roma, Sinti, Kurds, sex workers, the youth and other 'minorities' or marginalised peoples illuminates the ways in which institutions and practices of European citizenship enable or hinder claims for justice, rights and equality. We have also examined acts of citizenship with respect to the European Court of Justice and other key European institutions, and provided a comparative study of how some EU member states enact policies to deprive their citizens of the rights that they are (or should be) entitled to. The project assessed European citizenship in two key ways: (1) through analysing acts of citizenship by institutions, and by people who may or may not have formal citizenship status, and (2) by analysing political as well as legal claims to citizenship. Behind both approaches is the idea that any concept of citizenship contains tensions – European citizenship is certainly no exception. The book provides a focused and selective account of the findings of these investigations, drawing key

themes together into what we hope readers will find to be an illuminating and perhaps provocative whole.

We are grateful to the European Commission's FP7 for funding the project, and we thank in particular our project officer, Angela Liberatore, for her invaluable support and guidance. The Open University was a most hospitable research environment in which to coordinate a large research project. The university's financial and management contributions helped us to achieve results that would not have been possible with support from FP7 alone. Similarly, the Faculty of Social Sciences and its research office (Mark Wight, Alexis Peters and Dave Flatman) were most helpful. Three successive Associate Deans of Research – Graham Pike, Kevin Hetherington and Gillian Rose – understood well the managerial challenges posed by large research projects and were fully supportive. The project would have been impossible without the dedication of colleagues and partners making up the consortium. Our Advisory Board members – Didier Bigo, Joe Painter and Gerard Delanty – were most helpful with their critical interventions. We are grateful to (and enjoyed working with) the consortium researchers: Rutvica Andrijasevic, Claudia Aradau, Zsuzsanna Arendas, Anaïs Faure Atger, Jennifer Bagelman, Sandra Baltruka, Ayşe Çağlar, Sergio Carrera, Elspeth Guild, Jef Huysmans, Ivars Indāns, Bora Isyar, Fuat Keyman, Kristīne Krūma, P. G. Maciotti, Sandra Mantu, Sebastian Mehling, Prem Kumar Rajaram, Bahar Rumelili and Vicki Squire. Coordination of the project and its researchers was superbly handled by Anne Paynter, whose nickname, 'Super Anne', was entirely merited. We owe Anne a debt of gratitude for her tireless work, always done with good humour. Jack Harrington contributed enormously to the assembling and editing of this book. His excellent copy-editing and management skills went a long way towards helping us to achieve a measure of clear and consistent expression. Finally, we would like to thank our partners, Evelyn Ruppert and Sarah Driver, whose support was more deeply valued than our words can express here.

ENGIN F. ISIN AND MICHAEL SAWARD