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Edited by Daniel Jacobi and Annette Freyberg-Inan
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Human Beings in International Relations

Since the 1980s, the discipline of International Relations has seen a series of disputes over its foundations. However, there has been one core concept that, although addressed in various guises, had never been explicitly and systematically engaged with in these debates: the human. This volume is the first to address comprehensively the topic of the human in world politics. It comprises cutting-edge accounts by leading scholars of how the human is (or is not) theorized across the entire range of IR theories, old and new. The authors provide a solid foundation for future debates about how, why, and to which ends the human has been or must (not) be built into our theories, and systematically lay out the implications of such moves for how we come to see world politics and humanity's role within it.

Daniel Jacobi is Research Associate and Lecturer at Goethe University, Frankfurt, as well as Research Associate in the Cluster of Excellence "Formation of Normative Orders."

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West: A Securitizing Community?” (with Gunther Hellmann, Gabi Schlag, and Christian Weber), and *Uses of the West*, edited with Gunther Hellmann (forthcoming).

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As is the case with many projects, this edited volume grew out of a mix of curiosity and disappointment: curiosity as we were struck by the prominent return of the “human element” in the study of world politics, particularly since the 1990s; disappointment because, in surveying the existing literature, we soon noticed that, at the same time, nobody seemed to ask, much less answer, why such a return of the human was occurring, or how it influenced our understandings of world politics. Yet, once formulated, these questions instantly resonated with several of our peers. We thus very fortunately were able to assemble the present group of extremely qualified scholars from different backgrounds in this project. We believe that the resulting volume as well as the analytical angle developed and applied within it provide a substantial foundation for future debates about how, why, and to which ends the human has been or must (not) be built into our theories, how we hence come to see world politics, and how such theoretical moves impact on the position and significance assigned to humanity in world politics.

Over the long course of producing this volume we have acquired a significant number of debts. First of all, we want to express our gratitude to the authors present in this volume. Their immediate willingness to be part of this project and the trust they put forward were among the most rewarding experiences we made in the course of this work. Their continuous encouragement and willingness to heed editorial advice have greatly motivated us.

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the workshop and/or the volume initially, but unfortunately were not able to provide contributions to the final product: Siba Grovogui, Gunther Hellmann, and Robert Schuett.

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