For the sizeable Jewish community living in Greece during the 1940s, German occupation of Greece posed a distinct threat. The Nazis and their collaborators murdered around 90 percent of the Jewish population through the course of the war. This new account presents cutting-edge research on four elements of the Holocaust in Greece: the level of antisemitism and question of collaboration; the fate of Jewish property before, during, and after their deportation; how the few surviving Jews were treated following their return to Greece, especially in terms of justice and restitution; and the ways in which Jewish communities rebuilt themselves both in Greece and abroad. Taken together, these elements point to who was to blame for the disaster that befell Jewish communities in Greece, and show that the occupation authorities alone could not have carried out these actions to such magnitude without the active participation of Greek Christians.

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The Holocaust in Greece

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Preface

This is not a conference volume, although some of the papers originate from a one-day workshop we organized in Thessaloniki in November 2014. We met the year before at the European University Institute (EUI) in Florence where Moses was teaching and Antoniou had completed his PhD in part under the mentorship of Antony Molho. Born in 1939, Tony is a native of Thessaloniki who barely survived the Holocaust in Greece, hidden as a Christian child. He was educated in Greece, Italy, and the United States, embarking on a long and distinguished career in the study of Renaissance Italy. He has also published on Greek Jewish history. Among many posts, he taught at Brown University before moving to the EUI where he is now emeritus professor, dividing his time between Florence and Athens. As a colleague and friend, Tony introduced Moses to Greek Jewish history, Antoniou’s research subject. He was to contribute the epilogue to this book but was unable to do so in early 2018. We are most grateful to Katherine E. Fleming, herself a foremost scholar of the subject, for stepping in. Given Tony’s presence in the background of this undertaking, we dedicate it to him. We are also grateful to former Cambridge University Press editor, Lew Bateman, who encouraged us in the early stages and Dimitris Mitsopoulos for his indexing skills.

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