European Civil Society on the Road to Success?
Contents

Annette Zimmer
Preface – Turning towards European Civil Society 7

Matthias Freise
Introduction: European Civil Society on the Road to Success? 9

I. Stocktaking

Matthias Freise
The Civil Society Discourse in Brussels Between Societal Grievances and Utopian Ideas 23

V. Finn Heinrich
Assessing Civil Society in Europe: Comparative Findings of the CIVICUS Civil Society Index 45

II. Civil Society as a Ressource for Democratic Legitimacy?

Dawid Friedrich
Actual and Potential Contributions of Civil Society Organisations to Democratic EU Governance 67

Gudrun Eisele
Towards Visibility and Representativeness? Perspectives of the European Economic and Social Committee 87

Kristina Charrad
Lobbying and European Civil Society: Problems and Perspectives of Civil Society Actors from Visegrád Countries 109

Jenny Lind D. Elmaco
EU Foreign Policy vis-à-vis Civil Society: A Panacea or Penumbra to Democracy? 129
### III. Civil Society in European Policies

**Taco Brandsen**  
European Civil Society and the Open Method of Co-ordination: An Analysis of the National Action Plans on Social Inclusion  
157

**Peter Hilger**  
Engagement Policies in European Governance  
181

**Birgit Sittermann**  
Europe as Core Business or Additional Burden?  
German and Hungarian Civil Society Organisations in the Field of Youth Policy and their Way of Dealing with EU Policy  
201

**Dominik Sopart**  
Corporate Citizenship in Poland  
Financial Corporations as Contributors to Civil Society Building?  
227

The European PhD Dissertation Network on the Third Sector and Civil Society  
251

Index  
253

List of Contributors  
259