Contents

1 The Political Economy of Decentralisation and Local Government Finance in the Western Balkans: An Overview
William Bartlett, Sanja Kmezić, and Katarina Đulic 1

Part I Europeanisation and the Political Economy of Decentralisation 19

2 Slovenia: Vertical Imbalance in Local Government Financing
Boštjan Brezovnik, Mateja Finžgar, and Žan Jan Oplotnik 21

3 Croatia: Instruments of Fiscal Equalisation
Anto Bajo and Marko Primorac 53
Part II  Crisis, Policy Reversals, and Local Government Debt  81

4  Serbia: Local Government Financing and Non-transparency of Fiscal Data  83
  Sanja Kmezić and Katarina Đulić

5  Montenegro: Volatile Municipal Revenues  123
  Jadranka Kaluderović and Mijat Jocović

6  Bosnia and Herzegovina: Local Government Debt  163
  Halko Basarić, Nina Branković, and Lejla Lazović-Pita

Part III  Local Governments in Transition and the Political Economy of Ethnicity  201

7  Macedonia: Local Government Efficiency and Ethnic Fragmentation  203
  Marjan Nikolov

8  Kosovo: Can Decentralisation Resolve Ethnic Conflict?  231
  Adem Beha and Anton Vukpalaj

Part IV  Albania: Struggling with the Legacy of Extreme Centralisation  265

9  Albania: Aligning Territorial and Fiscal Decentralisation  267
  Elton Stafa and Merita Xhumari