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**Liberal convergence, growing outcome  
divergence? Institutional continuity and changing  
trajectories in the ‘Low Countries’**

Hester Houwing  
Kurt Vandaele

Uwe Becker (ed.)

# The Changing Political Economies of Small West European Countries

Uwe Becker (ed.)

CHANGING WELFARE STATES

The literature on changing varieties of capitalism concentrates on the big economies, particularly the US, Germany and Japan. *The Changing Political Economies of Small West European Countries* sheds light on the group of smaller European countries that share a high degree of corporatism - Austria, Belgium, Denmark, Finland, the Netherlands, Norway, Sweden and Switzerland. Most of them have recently been praised as alternative models to the liberal route as exemplified by the US. The authors put the small countries' political economies in comparative perspective and investigate the trajectories of their welfare systems, corporate governance, labour markets as well as industrial relations from about 1990 until the economic crisis in 2008. This volume also discusses typological questions, tracks the position of the small countries in the processes of European integration and asks whether their particular brands of capitalism might be a viable candidate for the European socio-economic model.

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