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Migration is a prominent part of the post-2008 agenda for Europe where policy intervention, if managed in a responsible way, can protect the rights of migrants, draw the economic, social, and human benefits of migration while suppressing negative, reactive domestic elements of popular sovereignty.

This is vital as it is evident that the migration crisis exposed and in some cases exacerbated a number of already existing challenges in the European Union and amongst national European policies. Therefore, as the sub-heading of this introduction asserts it is a time of choosing. Rather than focus solely on 'exceptional' and immediate issues raised by the recent refugee crisis, the discussion must also address medium and long-term trends and issues relevant to migration policy at large. With this understanding the modest scope of this book is thus explained.