Gathering among the best European specialists of welfare state comparisons, this book organises comprehensive and up to date information on European welfare state reforms in an analytical framework which allows a new approach to social policy changes.

- Demonstrates that, contrary to the common view, 'Bismarckian' welfare states have changed significantly

- Contains long term but also very accurate data and perspective beginning from the 1980s and up to the most recent reforms

- Speaks to two literatures: the one on welfare state, social policies and welfare state reforms; the other to the political science literature on changes, path dependency and incremental changes

- Organises comprehensive and up to date information on European welfare state reforms in an analytical framework

- Includes contributions from the best specialists of the field, including members of the European academic community of social policy comparativists

**ABOUT THE AUTHOR**

Bruno Palier is CNRS Researcher at Sciences Po. Trained in social science, he has a PHD in Political science, and is a former student of Ecole Normale Superieure. He is studying welfare reforms in Europe, and is currently conducting a comparative project on the politics of welfare reforms in Continental Europe. He was Visiting Scholar at Northwestern University (Spring quarter 2007),
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**FEATURES**

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