

Preface

The retreat of nation states from recognition of indigenous peoples' rights in the 21st century has been experienced within a broader ascent of politics, which has been framed within the rubric of neoliberalism.

In November 2016, an international group of scholars from Aotearoa/New Zealand, Australia and Canada gathered in Canberra to participate in a small, by-invitation symposium titled, 'Indigenous Rights, Recognition and the State in the Neoliberal Age'. The symposium was funded by the Centre for Aboriginal Economic Policy Research (CAEPR) and the Research School of Social Sciences at The Australian National University (ANU). The purpose of the symposium was to bring together a small group of sociologists, political scientists, political economists, anthropologists, law and society scholars and political philosophers to critically explore the theoretical, social, racial and political-economic dynamics underwriting indigenous policy in the neoliberal age—an age in which laws and policies with respect to indigenous peoples are being reformed and remade. Participants were invited to share innovative, practical and provocative ideas with respect to indigenous rights, recognition and the state in the neoliberal age. This book is the first edited collection to engage with the topic of indigenous rights, recognition and the state in the neoliberal age, drawing on most, but not all papers presented over the two-day symposium.

Speakers who made an important contribution to our discussions and ideas that culminated in this collection, but did not contribute a formal chapter, include Associate Professor Stephanie Gilbert (Wollotuka, University of Newcastle), Dr Kirsty Gover (Law, Melbourne University), Mary Spiers Williams (Law, ANU), Annie Te One (National Centre for Indigenous Studies, ANU), Sarah Ciftci (Socio-Legal Studies, University of Sydney) and Dr Katherine Curchin (CAEPR, ANU).

This text is taken from *The Neoliberal State, Recognition and Indigenous Rights: New paternalism to new imaginings*, edited by Deirdre Howard-Wagner, Maria Bargh and Isabel Altamirano-Jiménez, published 2018 by ANU Press, The Australian National University, Canberra, Australia.