The Rights of Others

*The Rights of Others* examines the boundaries of political community by focusing on political membership – the principles and practices for incorporating aliens and strangers, immigrants and newcomers, refugees and asylum seekers, into existing polities. Boundaries define some as members, others as aliens. But when state sovereignty is becoming frayed, and national citizenship is unraveling, definitions of political membership become much less clear. Indeed, few issues in world politics today are more important, or more troubling. In her Seeley Lectures, the distinguished political theorist Seyla Benhabib makes a powerful plea, echoing Immanuel Kant, for moral universalism and cosmopolitan federalism. She advocates not open but porous boundaries, recognizing not only the admittance rights of refugees and asylum seekers, but also the regulatory rights of democracies. *The Rights of Others* is a major intervention in contemporary political theory, of interest to large numbers of students and specialists in politics, law, philosophy, and international relations.

*Seyla Benhabib* is one of the leading political theorists in the world today and Eugene Meyer Professor of Political Science and Philosophy at Yale University.
The John Robert Seeley Lectures have been established by the University of Cambridge as a biennial lecture series in social and political studies, sponsored jointly by the Faculty of History and Cambridge University Press. The Seeley Lectures provide a unique forum for distinguished scholars of international reputation to address, in an accessible manner, themes of broad and topical interest in social and political studies. Subsequent to their public delivery in Cambridge the University Press publishes suitably modified versions of each set of lectures. Professor James Tully delivered the inaugural series of Seeley Lectures in 1994 on the theme of Constitutionalism in an Age of Diversity.

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ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

This book presents the revised and expanded version of the John Robert Seeley Lectures, delivered at the invitation of the University of Cambridge in King's College on April 27–May 2, 2002. I thank Gareth Stedman Jones and Miri Rubin for their generous hospitality during this period. Special thanks go to Quentin Skinner under whose auspices I was first invited to deliver them. Susan James, Istvan Hont, Onora O'Neill, John Dunn, Richard Tuck, Emma Rothschild, Amartya Sen, and Andrew Kuper enriched my stay in Cambridge through their questions and comments.

Among the many occasions on which I presented the ideas gathered in this volume, the discussion at the Yale Law School's Legal Theory Colloquium in February 2002 was one of the most memorable. My thanks to Dean Anthony Kronman, who presided, and to my colleagues Bruce Ackerman, Owen Fiss, Paul Kahn, Judith Resnik, and Reva Siegel for subsequent conversations and remarks. I am particularly grateful to Judith Resnik for supplying me with pertinent international law references.

My colleagues at the University of Toronto, Joseph Carens, Melissa Williams, Audrey Macklin, and Jennifer Nedelsky, heard me present some of this material under the auspices of the Priestley lectureship in October 2003. I am grateful to them for their incisive comments.

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ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

For their questions and reflections on Kant, Arendt, and the European Union, I also thank Veit Bader, Rainer Bauboeck, Jay Bernstein, Richard J. Bernstein, James Bohman, Nancy Fraser, Morris Kaplan, Riva Kastoryano, John McCormick, Max Pensky, Ulrich Preuss, and Sayres Rudy. I am particularly grateful to Carolin Emcke for her thoughts on chapters 3 and 5, and to Nancy Kokaz for her spirited defense of Rawls against my criticisms. Special thanks go to Willem Maas for many conversations on citizenship within the European Union, and in particular for his help with chapter 4. Melvin Rogers was an indispensable assistant in preparing the bibliography and helping me with references throughout. David Leslie provided crucial copyediting assistance in the final stages of this book.

A special word of gratitude is due to my family, my daughter, Laura and my husband, Jim Sleeper, who have accompanied me from Boston to Amsterdam, to London, to Istanbul, and to Connecticut, as this book took shape over many voyages, border crossings, and passport controls.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS


Finally, many thanks to Richard Fisher, Karen Anderson Howes, and Alison Powell of Cambridge University Press. It was a pleasure to work with them.