

## Some Useful Sources

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### Historical analyses of austerity

Austerity has been subject to sustained analysis since 2008 given its significance in the post-crisis political economy of welfare. However, it is also important to consider its historical origins and application. The texts below provide analyses of austerity both in the recent and more distant past.

Blyth, M. (2013) *Austerity, The History of a Dangerous Idea*, Oxford: Oxford University Press.

Bramall, R. (2013) *The Cultural Politics of Austerity, Past and Present in Austere Times*, Basingstoke: Palgrave Macmillan.

Pierson, P. (1998) 'Irresistible forces, immovable objects: post-industrial welfare states confront permanent austerity', *Journal of European Public Policy*, 5, 4, 539-60.

Schui, F. (2014) *Austerity, The Great Failure*, New Haven: Yale University Press.

Sissons, M. and French P. (eds.) (1963) *Age of Austerity 1945-1951*, London: Hodder and Stoughton.

### Key early contributions to the analysis of the 2008 global financial crisis and the onset of austerity

In the immediate and early post-crisis period much of the literature considered the political implications within the context of the survival of neo-liberalism as a hegemonic project. The texts below represent some of the key contributions with most relevance for social policy and the welfare state.

Armingeon, K. (2013) 'Breaking with the past? Why the global financial crisis led to austerity policies but not to the modernization of the welfare state', in C. Pierson, F. G. Castles, and I. K. Naumann (eds.), *The Welfare State Reader*, 3rd edn, Cambridge: Polity.

Bermeo, N. and Pontusson, J. (eds.) (2012) *Coping with Crisis, Government Reactions to the Great Recession*, New York, NY: Russell Sage Foundation.

Clarke, J. and Newman, J. (2012) 'The alchemy of austerity', *Critical Social Policy*, 32, 3, 299-319.

Crouch, C. (2011) *The Strange Non-Death of Neoliberalism*, Cambridge: Polity.

Farnsworth, K. and Irving, Z. (eds.) (2011) *Social Policy in Challenging Times: Economic Crisis and Welfare Systems*, Bristol: The Policy Press.

Gamble, A. (2009) *The Spectre at the Feast, Capitalist Crisis and the Politics of Recession*, Basingstoke: Palgrave Macmillan.

Jessop, B. (2013) 'The North Atlantic financial crisis and varieties of capitalism: a Minsky moment and/or a Marx moment? And perhaps Weber too?', in S. Fadda and P. Tridico (eds.), *Financial Crisis, Labour Markets and Institutions*, London: Routledge, 40-59.

Mirowski, P. (2014) *Never Let a Serious Crisis Go to Waste*, London: Verso.

- Reinhart, C. M. and Rogoff, K.S. (2009) *This Time is Different: Eight Centuries of Financial Folly*, Princeton: Princeton University Press.
- Seymour, R. (2014) *Against Austerity, How We Can Fix the Crisis They Made*, London: Pluto Press.
- Schäfer, A. and Streeck, W. (2013) *Politics in the Age of Austerity*, Cambridge: Polity.
- Starke, P., Kaasch, A. and van Hooren, F. (2013) *The Welfare State as Crisis Manager: Explaining the Diversity of Policy Responses to Economic Crisis*, Basingstoke, Palgrave Macmillan.
- Taylor-Gooby, P. (2013) *The Double Crisis of the Welfare State and What We Can Do About It*, Basingstoke: Palgrave Macmillan.
- Theodoropoulou, S. and Watt, A. (2011) *Withdrawal Symptoms: An Assessment of the Austerity Packages in Europe*, ETUI Working Paper 2011.02, 4 May, <https://ssrn.com/abstract=2221838> or <http://dx.doi.org/10.2139/ssrn.2221838>, [accessed 14.09.2020].
- van Kersbergen, K., Vis, B. and Hemerijck, A. (2014) 'The great recession and welfare state reform: is retrenchment really the only game left in town?', *Social Policy and Administration*, 48, 7, 883-904.

### Contemporary analyses of the age of austerity around the world

Investigation and interrogation of the incidence and effects, or reach of austerity since 2008 has been undertaken across the social sciences. These selected sources present international, cross-national and/or global analytical perspectives.

- Farnsworth, K. and Irving, Z. (eds.) (2015) *Social Policy in Times of Austerity: Global Economic Crisis and the New Politics of Welfare*, Bristol: Policy Press.
- Farnsworth, K. and Irving, Z. (2018) 'Deciphering the International Monetary Fund's (IMFs) position on austerity: incapacity, incoherence and instrumentality', *Global Social Policy*, 18, 2, 119-42.
- Greve, B. (2020) *Austerity, Retrenchment and the Welfare State: Truth or Fiction?* Cheltenham: Edward Elgar.
- Greve, B. (forthcoming 2021) *Handbook on Austerity*, Cheltenham: Edward Elgar.
- Hall, S., Pimlott-Wilson, H. and Horton, J. (eds.) (forthcoming 2021) *Austerity Across Europe, Lived Experiences of Economic Crises*, London: Routledge.
- McBride, S. and Evans, B. (eds.) (2017) *The Austerity State*, Toronto: University of Toronto Press
- McBride, S., Mahon, R. and Boychuk, G. (eds.) (2015) *After '08 Social Policy and the Global Financial Crisis*, Vancouver: UBC Press.
- Rakopoulos, T. (2018) *The Global Life of Austerity, Comparing Beyond Europe*, New York and Oxford: Berghahn Books.
- Streeck, W. (2014) *Buying Time: The Delayed Crisis of Democratic Capitalism*, London: Verso.
- Taylor-Gooby, P. Leruth, B. and Chung, H. (eds.) *After Austerity: Welfare State Transformation in Europe after the Great Recession*, Oxford: Oxford University Press, 27-47.
- Wren-Lewis, S. (2018) *The Lies We Were Told, Politics, Economics, Austerity and Brexit*, Bristol: Bristol University Press.

### The impact of austerity on people and policy

All areas of social, political and economic life have felt the impact of austerity even if indirectly, and similarly there is no aspect of social policy that has not been touched by retrenchment, even if this is variable cross-nationally. There are numerous studies that focus on local and specific areas of social policy or particular social groups, and the examples below are just some of the sources that focus on particular groups or policy areas where the impact of austerity has been assessed.

- Alston, P. (2019) *Visit to the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland Report of the Special Rapporteur on Extreme Poverty and Human Rights*, Human Rights Council Forty-first session 24 June–12 July 2019 Agenda item 3 Promotion and protection of all human rights, civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights, including the right to development, A/HRC/41/39/Add.1, London: United Nations.
- Bassel, L. and Emejulu, A. (2018) *Minority Women and Austerity*, Bristol: Policy Press.
- Basu, S., Carney, M. and Kenworthy, N. (2017) 'Ten years after the financial crisis: the long reach of austerity and its global impacts on health', *Social Science and Medicine*, 187, 203-7.
- Cantillon, B., Chzhen, Y., Handa, S. and Nolan, B. (eds.) (2017) *Children of Austerity: Impact of the Great Recession on Child Poverty in Rich Countries*, Oxford: UNICEF and Oxford University Press.
- Cooper, V. and Whyte, D. (eds.) (2017) *The Violence of Austerity*, London: Pluto Press.
- Edmiston, D. (2018) *Welfare, Inequality and Social Citizenship: Deprivation and Affluence in Austerity Britain*, Bristol: Policy Press.
- Feminist Review (2015) Special Issue 'The Politics of Austerity', 109, 1.
- Hastings, T. and Heyes, J. (2018) 'Farewell to flexicurity? Austerity and labour policies in the European Union', *Economic and Industrial Democracy*, 39, 3, 458-80.
- O'Hara, M. (2015) *Austerity Bites – A Journey to the Sharp End of Cuts in the UK*, Bristol: Policy Press.
- Stuckler, D. and Basu, S. (2013) *The Body Economic: Why Austerity Kills*, New York: Basic Books.

### Electronic resources

**Mark Blyth's austerity 'explainer'** <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=go2bVGi0ReE> A Watson Institute video on the global trend toward Austerity budgets featuring Mark Blyth. Directed by Joe Posner, Brown University, USA [accessed 12.09.2020]. This is an early contribution to the public understanding of austerity's origins, aims and likely outcomes.

With a focus on public spending as an indicator of the presence or absence of austerity, key economic international governmental organisations collect data on revenues and spending. The **International Monetary Fund (IMF) Fiscal Monitor** <https://www.imf.org/en/publications/fm> [accessed 12.09.20] was established in 2009 to provide international surveillance of developments in public finances. **OECD Data** relevant to public spending is found in various topic areas at <https://data.oecd.org> and data specifically relating to the **European Union** can be found within a different categorisation of topic areas through the European Commission [https://ec.europa.eu/budget/graphs/revenue\\_expenditure.html](https://ec.europa.eu/budget/graphs/revenue_expenditure.html) and through the statistical service Eurostat <https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/data/database> [accessed 12.09.2020].