Is the concept of open society still relevant in the 21st century? Do the current social, moral, and political realities call for a drastic revision of this concept? Here fifteen essays address real-world contemporary challenges to open society from a variety of perspectives. What unites the individual authors and chapters is an interest in open society's continuing usefulness and relevance to address current problems. And what distinguishes them is a rich variety of geographical and cultural backgrounds, and a wide range of academic disciplines and traditions.

“Open Society Unresolved offers new perspectives on the existing literature on the concept of open society. The volume demonstrates how the significant enrichment of the open society idea is possible by emphasizing the pluralism of ideals and embracing non-western political ideologies, other than liberal politics alone. As such, the book advances both constructive debates and new ways of thinking about the open society and the plurality of ways that will help to promote openness in society. It is a must-read for scholars interested in liberal politics, international politics and justice, moral philosophy and law.”

Oseni Taiwo Afisi, Lagos State University, Nigeria

“As new challenges continue to emerge and threaten open societies around the world, there is a renewed urgency in understanding the nature of the open society in all its complexity and diversity. This collection of essays does just that, exploring different historical, analytical, and political elements that make up open societies while noting that the very idea of the open society is itself contested. This is as it should be. Open societies prize the contestation of ideas and this volume exemplifies that ideal while examining it. Understanding the foundations and challenges of an open, free, and dynamic society is one of the most urgent and crucial intellectual tasks of our time and I can't think of a better place to start wrestling with those issues than this excellent volume.”

John Thrasher, Chapman University, California

ABOUT THE EDITORS

Christof Royer is Assistant Professor of International Relations and Political Theory at Forward College (Paris) and the program leader of the ‘Open Society Research Platform’ at Central European University.

Liviu Matei is Head of the School of Education, Communication and Society at King’s College London. Prior to joining King’s College in March 2022, he was Professor of Higher Education Policy at Central European University, where he directed the Yehuda Elkana Center for Higher Education.