

Max Weber

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In 1908, Max Weber accepted Paul Siebeck's offer to provide a new edition of the *Handbook of Political Economy*, first published under the editorship of Gustav von Schönberg. The previous publication was regarded as being outdated. Due to legal problems, the title of the Handbook was changed into *Compendium of Social Economics* in 1914. In the same year, the publication of the series of articles under this title began. In this connection Weber himself prepared a contribution entitled »Economy and Society,« which title he changed into »The Economy and the Societal Orders and Powers« in 1914. At the beginning of the First World War, however, this article had not yet been finished, and after the war he began again, using these unfinished pre-war manuscripts as material. The first results of this endeavor were already in print when he died, and thus the new contribution also remained unfinished. It was Marianne Weber who, with the assistance of Melchior Palyi, combined the manuscripts in print with those found in the literary estate to create a book in three parts. After her death, Johannes Winckelmann reduced the three parts to two. *Economy and Society* was translated into many languages as one book in parts, and was well-received worldwide. This does not however do justice to the situation after Weber's death. *Economy and Society* is not one book in parts, but one project in several versions, and its development is intrinsically related to the development of the *Compendium*, a fact which is demonstrated in this volume, and supported by a wealth of documents.

Max Weber Geboren 1864 in Erfurt; Studium der Jurisprudenz, Geschichte, Nationalökonomie und Philosophie in Heidelberg, Berlin und Göttingen; 1889 Promotion über die Geschichte der Handelsgesellschaften im Mittelalter; 1891 Habilitationsschrift über Römische Agrargeschichte; Ordinarius für Nationalökonomie in Freiburg (ab 1894) und Heidelberg (ab 1897); Mitherausgeber des Archiv für Sozialwissenschaft und Sozialpolitik und Redakteur des Grundriß der Sozialökonomik; umfassende Beiträge zur Methodologie der Sozialwissenschaften, zur Politik des deutschen Kaiserreichs, zu Wirtschaft, Politik, Religion, Recht und Kunst in universalgeschichtlicher Perspektive; nach langem, krankheitsbedingtem Interim schließlich Professor für Gesellschaftswissenschaft, Wirtschaftsgeschichte und Nationalökonomie in München (ab 1919); gestorben 1920 in München.

Wolfgang Schluchter ist emeritierter Professor für Soziologie an der Universität Heidelberg und geschäftsführender Herausgeber der Max Weber-Gesamtausgabe.

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