Acknowledgements

Needless to say this book could not have been written without the generous help support and encouragement of a number of people (although the usual caveat applies!). I am indebted to David Miller, Oxford, for pointing me to Rousseau's nationalist writings, to Jürgen Habermas for curing my contextualist delusions – and for doing so in a way that shows that he practices what he preaches. I am further indebted to the late Robert Nozick for teaching me that a political thinker should always be ready to radically revise initial conceptions. I also wish to thank John Grey, Brendan O'Leary, Erik Ringmar, Ethan Putterman, John Charvet, George Tsebelis, Kenneth Minogue, Gordon Smith, Alex Cambridge, Sascha Qvortrup, Steffen Qvortrup, Tracey Gafoor, David Blunkett, Nina Hilfensohn, Fergal McDonnell, Ed Page, Thomas König, Gary Sussman, George Jones, Ernest Thorpe, John Parillo-Hess, the two anonymous referees – and my editors Tony Mason and Richard Delahunty. Lastly I am grateful to Pia, Sebastian and Frederik for letting me work on this book when I really should have spent more time in the playground.

Mads Qvortrup, Oxford