Beyond Social Democracy

Beyond Social Democracy: The Transformation of the Left in Emerging Knowledge Societies examines the electoral decline of social democratic parties and how distinctive strategic moves might enable them to salvage different segments of their former electoral coalitions. Social democratic decline, however, does not imply the demise of basic tenets of the parties' programmatic appeals. Under the impact of novel twenty-first-century political-economic challenges, these concerns are also invoked and repackaged with new ideas by other left parties. Empirically, voter movements show that social democratic parties incur net losses mostly to these other leftist parties, while sustaining a balanced, but voluminous exchange with center-right parties. Contrary to commonly held preconceptions, there is little net loss to the new extreme right. These findings will be pertinent to anyone interested in understanding or devising party strategies in twenty-first-century democracies. This title is also available as Open Access on Cambridge Core.

Silja Häusermann is Professor of Political Science in the Department of Political Science at the University of Zurich, where she studies welfare state politics and party system change in advanced capitalist democracies. She is the author of *The Politics of Welfare State Reform in Continental Europe* (2010), coeditor of *The Politics of Advanced Capitalism* (2015), and coauthor of *Cleavage Formation in the 21st Century: How Social Identities Shape Voting Behavior in Contexts of Electoral Realignment*, all with Cambridge University Press.

Herbert Kitschelt is George V. Allen Distinguished Professor of International Relations at Duke University, where his investigations cover political party competition and citizen–politician linkages. He is the author of *The Transformation of European Social Democracy* (1994) and coeditor of *The Politics of Advanced Capitalism* (2015), both with Cambridge University Press.

Downloaded from https://www.cambridge.org/core. UNIVERSIDAD AUTONOMA METROPOLITANA, on 19 Nov 2026 at 04:31:28, subject to the Cambridge Core terms of use, available at https://www.cambridge.org/core/terms. https://doi.org/10.1017/9781009496810

Downloaded from https://www.cambridge.org/core. UNIVERSIDAD AUTONOMA METROPOLITANA, on 19 Nov 2026 at 04:31:28, subject to the Cambridge Core terms of use, available at https://www.cambridge.org/core/terms. https://doi.org/10.1017/9781009496810

Beyond Social Democracy

The Transformation of the Left in Emerging Knowledge Societies

Edited by

Silja Häusermann

University of Zurich

Herbert Kitschelt

Duke University

CAMBRIDGE
UNIVERSITY PRESS

Downloaded from https://www.cambridge.org/core. UNIVERSIDAD AUTONOMA METROPOLITANA, on 19 Nov 2026 at 04:31:28, subject to the Cambridge Core terms of use, available at https://www.cambridge.org/core/terms. https://doi.org/10.1017/9781009496810

CAMBRIDGE
UNIVERSITY PRESS

Shaftesbury Road, Cambridge CB2 8EA, United Kingdom

One Liberty Plaza, 20th Floor, New York, NY 10006, USA

477 Williamstown Road, Port Melbourne, VIC 3207, Australia

314–321, 3rd Floor, Plot 3, Splendor Forum, Jasola District Centre,
New Delhi – 110025, India

103 Penang Road, #05–06/07, Visioncrest Commercial, Singapore 238467

Cambridge University Press is part of Cambridge University Press & Assessment,
a department of the University of Cambridge.

We share the University's mission to contribute to society through the pursuit of
education, learning and research at the highest international levels of excellence.

www.cambridge.org
Information on this title: www.cambridge.org/9781009496827

DOI: 10.1017/9781009496810

© Cambridge University Press & Assessment 2024

This publication is in copyright. Subject to statutory exception and to the provisions
of relevant collective licensing agreements, with the exception of the Creative Commons
version the link for which is provided below, no reproduction of any part may take
place without the written permission of Cambridge University Press & Assessment.

An online version of this work is published at doi.org/10.1017/9781009496810 under a
Creative Commons Open Access license CC-BY-NC 4.0 which permits re-use, distribution and
reproduction in any medium for non-commercial purposes providing appropriate credit to the
original work is given and any changes made are indicated. To view a copy of this license visit
https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc/4.0

When citing this work, please include a reference to the DOI 10.1017/9781009496810

First published 2024

A catalogue record for this publication is available from the British Library

Library of Congress Cataloging-in-Publication Data
Names: Häusermann, Silja, author. | Kitschelt, Herbert, author.
Title: Beyond social democracy : the transformation of the left in emerging knowledge
societies / edited by Silja Häusermann, Herbert Kitschelt.
Description: Cambridge, United Kingdom ; New York, NY : Cambridge University Press,
2024. | Includes bibliographical references and index.
Identifiers: LCCN 2024000019 | ISBN 9781009496827 (hardback) |
ISBN 9781009496810 (ebook)
Subjects: LCSH: Socialist parties – Europe. | Politics, Practical – Europe. |
Party affiliation – Europe. | Knowledge economy – Political aspects – Europe. |
Europe – Politics and government – 21st century.
Classification: LCC JN94.A979 H38 2024 | DDC 324.24–dc23/eng/20240325
LC record available at https://lccn.loc.gov/2024000019

ISBN 978-1-009-49682-7 Hardback
ISBN 978-1-009-49680-3 Paperback

Cambridge University Press & Assessment has no responsibility for the persistence
or accuracy of URLs for external or third-party internet websites referred to in this
publication and does not guarantee that any content on such websites is, or will
remain, accurate or appropriate.

Downloaded from https://www.cambridge.org/core. UNIVERSIDAD AUTONOMA METROPOLITANA, on 19 Nov 2026 at 04:31:28, subject to the
Cambridge Core terms of use, available at https://www.cambridge.org/core/terms. https://doi.org/10.1017/9781009496810