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Local Governance in Central and Eastern Europe
Comparing Performance in the Czech Republic, Hungary, Poland and Russia

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De Montfort University

Anneke Hudalla
Independent Scholar and Journalist

with

Hellmut Wollmann
Humboldt University

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Preface

This book is the product of a collective effort. Hellmut Wollmann provided overall project administrative management and guidance. Tomila V. Lankina is the principal author of the study. She wrote Chapters 1, 4, 6 and 7, carried out research in Hungary and Russia, and revised and rewrote the original research project manuscript for publication as a book. Anneke Hudalla wrote Chapters 2, 3 and 5 and conducted research in the Czech Republic and Poland. Sections of chapters authored by one scholar incorporate research conducted by both scholars in the respective countries. We are extremely grateful to the German Public Science Foundation for providing generous funding for the research project. We would like to thank Judit Keller for her outstanding research support in Hungary, Alexander Belousov for his research in Berlin, and Magdalena Szaniawska and Jacqueline Kuehn for their excellent research assistance. We are also very grateful to the anonymous referee for his thoughtful comments and suggestions for improvement of the manuscript. Finally, we express our gratitude to local officials, members of civil society organisations, businesses and civic activists in the cities of Staraya Russa, Balashov, Jelenia Góra, Biała Podlaska, Ústí nad Labem, Karviná, Szolnok and Sopron who provided valuable insights for our study and facilitated our research. Any errors are of course solely our own.

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