

Preface

This thesis was written during my time at the Centre for European Economic Research (*Zentrum für Europäische Wirtschaftsforschung*, ZEW) in Mannheim. It is based on the research projects Evaluation of the Experimentation Clause in Chapter 6c of Book II of the German Social Code, Research Area 3: Impact and Efficiency Analysis (*Evaluation der Experimentierklausel nach §6c SGB II, Untersuchungsfeld 3: Wirkungs- und Effizienzanalyse*) and Effects of Book II of the German Social Code on Persons with a Migration Background (*Wirkungen des SGB II auf Personen mit Migrationshintergrund*). Both projects were commissioned by Germany's Federal Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs (*Bundesministerium für Arbeit und Soziales*) to evaluate the German welfare reform of 2005 and were conducted by ZEW and several project partners, including the Institute for Work, Skills and Training (*Institut Arbeit und Qualifikation*) and TNS Emnid. The completion of the thesis would not have been possible without the support of a number of people to whom I owe many thanks.

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