

**Bieler, Andreas (2006)** *The Struggle for a Social Europe: Trade unions and EMU in times of global restructuring*. Manchester: Manchester University Press. PP.1-254.  
ISBN 0-7190-7252-2.

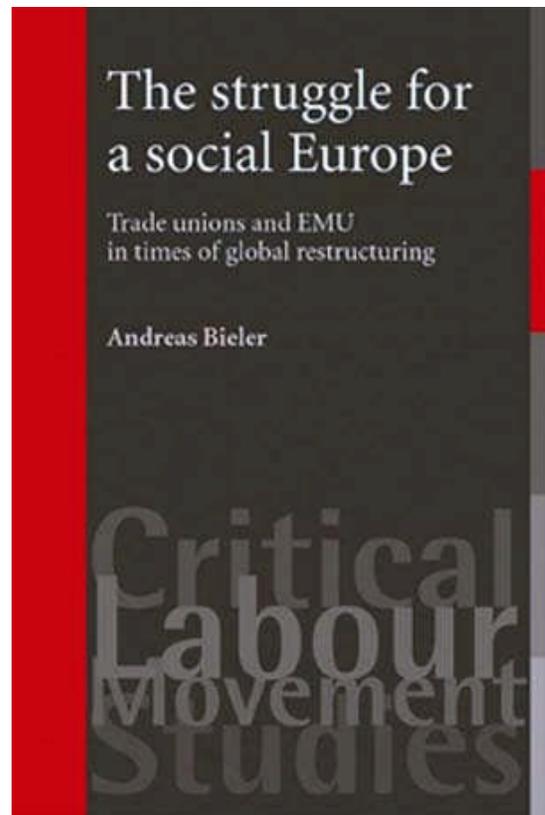
### **Short listed for the 2007 IPEG Book Prize**

'This is an extraordinarily important book – path-breaking in its coverage, rigorous in its scholarship, and sophisticated in its theorizing. It turns the spotlight of our attention onto institutions and social forces normally disregarded in the mainstream literature on European integration. By bringing the trade unions of five major European countries into such sharp focus, Andreas Bieler reminds us of the crucial role of organized labour in the shaping of a social Europe. It is a reminder that is long overdue. Clearly structured and tightly argued around a set of persuasive theses, this book will be a valuable point of reference for the many scholars and political activists now seeking to tame the neo-liberal excesses of an unregulated global capitalism.'

David Coates, Worrell Professor of Anglo-American Studies, Wake Forest University, North Carolina, USA.

'Andreas Bieler's focus on the inter-play between national and global factors as well as political realities is a welcome contribution to understanding how unions fight for Another Europe. The perspective he offers is illuminating, as is his understanding of the importance of European sectoral trade union organisations. I strongly recommend this book for reading.'

Jan Willem Goudriaan, Deputy General Secretary of the European Federation of Public Service Trade Unions, Brussels.



### **Book reviews**

'This is a powerful book, and its overall conclusion serves as an effective critique of the notion that European unions have ideologically capitulated to neoliberalism'

Chris Howell in *Capital & Class*, No.92 (2007): 194

### **Further reviews can be found in:**

*British Journal of Politics and Industrial Relations*, Vol.45/3 (2007): 639-41 by Matthieu Lietaert.

*Journal of Contemporary European Studies*, Vol.15/2 (2007): 236-8 by Susan Milner.

*Journal of Common Market Studies*, Vol.45/3 (2007): 757-8 by Monika Mura.

*Industrial Relations Journal*, Vol.38/6 (2007): 645-7 by Andrew Mathers.