Contents

About	the author	,	
Forew	ord by Carmelo Mesa-Lago	٧	
Introduction			
Part One: Social security evolution in a global perspective: what is at stake?			
one	A brief history of social security	9	
	Institutional predecessors of social insurance	9	
	The coming of social insurance	13	
	The road to social security	17	
	The beginning of retrenchment	19	
two	Essential issues of social protection in our society	25	
	Social security in a globalised world: the changing environment	25	
	The changing content of social security and limits of income redistribution	27	
	The global economic trap of human rights	31	
	The problem of the integration of social and economic policies	32	
	Social security and communism	35	
	Social security and neoliberalism	39	
	Social security and solidarity	46	
	Social security and democracy	48	
three	The new approaches to securing human existence in society	53	
	The road to social insecurity	53	
	Towards new approaches in industrialised countries	55	
	Social security and the developing world	57	
	wo: Understanding social security in its societal nment: which methodology?		
four	A brief history of the sociology of social security	63	
	The beginning of the art: the quest for understanding	63	

	The revival in the 1980s: the quest for rationalisation	66
	The final pattern: sociological studies of social policy and welfare	70
five	A macro-sociological approach to the study of	73
-	social security	
	Presentation of an early forerunner of macro-sociological factor analysis	73
	The stages of maturation	74
	The macro-sociological factor analysis of social security and its use	77
six	The use of macro-sociological factor analysis in comparative studies	97
	Comparing the social product of the institution	97
	Taking account of the 'cultural factor'	98
	The question of practical applicability	99
	The use of macro-sociological factor analysis in more	100
	recent studies	
	hree: Reinventing social security in times of economi foundations of a new political consensus	c
seven	Adapting social security to a new societal environment	107
	The impact of economic crises on the institution in a historical perspective	107
	The initial impact of the present economic crisis	109
	National economy as a permanent support of social security systems	110
	Search for a new political consensus on social security	112
Final reflections		115
Referer	nces	119
Index		123