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Northern and Western Europe -- 2.1.3 Older People in Eastern Europe Are Most Likely to Live in Multigenerational Households -- 2.1.4 The Health of Older People Varies across Regions -- 2.2 What Do Commonly Used Data Say about Population Ageing and Its Effects on Society? -- 3 Ageing Equally: Politics, Health and Solidarity -- 3.1 The 'Greedy Geezer' Narrative -- 3.2 The Demand-Side Explanation for Win-Lose Policies: Partially, but Only Partially, Correct -- 3.2.1 Older People Do Make Up a Large Share of Voters -- 3.2.2 Sometimes Older Adults Prefer Win-Lose Policies, and Act Politically to Try to Get Them -- 3.2.3 Social Policy Preferences of Older and Younger People Are Often Not As Different As We Expect. 3.3 Older Voters Do Not Vote As a Bloc -- 3.4 The Supply-Side Explanation for Win-Lose Policies Is Also Partly, but Only Partly, Right -- 3.4.1 There Is Some Evidence of Politicians Responding to Demands from Older Voters When Making Social Policy Choices -- 3.4.2 Policy Is Mainly a Response to Factors Other Than Pressure from Older People -- 3.5 Weighing the Evidence -- 3.5.1 Are Older People 'Greedy', Rationally Demanding or Deserving? -- 3.5.2 Social Policies Generally Result Mainly from Considerations Unrelated to Demand from Voters -- 3.6 Conclusion -- 3.7 Appendix -- 4 The Coalitional Politics of Win-Wins -- 4.1 Introduction -- 4.1.1 Intra- and Intergenerational Solidarity Across Europe -- 4.2 Intra- and Intergenerational Solidarity in an Era of Austerity -- 4.3 The Politics of Healthy Ageing -- 4.3.1 Why is the Win-Win So Difficult to Achieve? -- 4.4 Coalitions and Healthy Ageing -- 4.5 New Challenges -- 4.6 Conclusion -- 5 Unequal Ageing: the Politics of Ageing As the Politics of Health Inequalities -- 5.1 Introduction -- 5.2 Unequal Ageing: Who Gets to Be Old? -- 5.2.1 Gender Inequalities in Health -- 5.2.2 Ethnic Inequalities in Health -- 5.2.3 Socioeconomic Inequalities in Health -- 5.2.4 Geographical Inequalities in Health -- 5.2.5 Intersectional Inequalities -- 5.2.6 Trends in Health Inequalities -- 5.2.7 COVID-19 Pandemic and Health Inequalities -- 5.3 What Causes Health Inequalities? -- 5.3.1 Material Resources: the Social Determinants of Health -- 5.3.2 Explaining Geographic Inequalities in Health -- 5.4 Beyond the Social Position and Place: the Political Economy Approach -- 5.5 Conclusion -- 6 The Implications of Win-Win and Win-Lose Policies for the 'Ageing Crisis' -- 6.1 Introduction -- 6.2 Win-Win Policies and Healthy Ageing -- 6.2.1 The English Health Inequalities Strategy as a Win-Win Strategy. 6.2.2 German Reunification: Drawing Lessons from an Unusual Win-Win -- 6.3 Win-Lose Policies and the Implications for Healthy Ageing -- 6.3.1 Austerity Politics and Ageing in the UK -- 6.3.2 Health Inequalities and the "Americanization" of European Political Economy -- 6.4 Conclusion -- 7 Conclusion -- 7.1 Tearing Down Straw Men -- 7.2 Equity, Intergenerational and Other -- 7.3 After the Straw Men: Understanding the Politics of Ageing and Health -- 7.4 Getting to a Win-Win -- Bibliography -- Index.

Sommario/riassunto

One of the most important political and economic challenges facing Europe and elsewhere is the ageing of societies. Must ageing populations create conflict between generations and crisis for health systems? Our answer is no. The problem is not so much demographic change as the political and policy challenge of creating fair, sustainable and effective policies for people of all ages. This book, based on a large European Observatory study, uses new evidence to challenge some of the myths surrounding ageing and its effects on economies and health systems. Cataclysmic views of population ageing are often based on stereotypes and anecdotes unsupported by evidence. How we address ageing societies is a choice. Societies can choose policies that benefit people of all ages, promoting equity both within and between

generations, and political coalitions can be built to support such policies. This title is available as Open Access on Cambridge Core.

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