**Donatella M. Viola**, PhD in International Relations from the London School of Economics and Political Science, London, UK, is Assistant Professor in Politics and International Relations at the University of Calabria, Italy. Formerly *Robert Schuman Scholar* at the Directorate-General of the Secretariat of the European Parliament in Luxembourg and *Marie Curie Fellow* at the London School of Economics, she has also researched and lectured in the UK at the Universities of Bristol, Cardiff, Leeds, London, Plymouth, Regent's College and the Richmond American International University in London

Donatella M Viola has been Visiting Professor at the Academy of European Public Law EPLO in Greece, at the University of Malta, at the Friedrich-Alexander Universität (FAU) of Erlangen-Nuremberg, Germany as well as Visiting Scholar at the College of Europe – Bruges, Belgium. She has also given seminar and lectures at the following academic institutions based in Italy: European University Institute, Florence, 'John Cabot' University in Rome, LUISS, Bocconi, Florence, Turin, Messina and 'Mediterranea' Universities.

Her main research interests revolve around the international relations of the European Union, the European Parliament, political parties. She is editor and main contributor of the *Routledge Handbook of European Election*, Routledge, 2016, and author of the monograph *European Foreign Policy and the European Parliament in the 1990s*, Ashgate, 2000. Her other publications cover: elections to the European Parliament; national parliaments; enlargement of the European Union; conflicts in the Gulf; the European Constitution; EU immigration and environmental policies.