Geeft dit niet aan dat althans op een aantal punten de uitbreiding van de welvaarts-staat diende te worden afgedwongen van de werkgevers?

Een kwestie die wat weinig uit de verf komt, vooral voor Nederland, zijn de interne breuklijnen binnen de werkgeversgroep. De Nederlandse werkgevers ston-den niet altijd op één lijn in discussies over concrete dossiers. Er bestonden verschillende (verzuilde) interprofessionele patronale organisaties naast elkaar, maar de breuklijnen liepen niet steeds volgens deze organisaties, zo kan men afleiden uit bepaalde discussies. De vraag of hier een sector of regiospecificiteit aan ten grondslag lag en of er sprake was van een algemeen patroon wordt niet gesteld of beantwoord.

Deze kanttekeningen doen nauwelijks afbreuk aan de kwaliteiten van dit werk dat vele nieuwe vragen en discussiepunten opwerpt waar we in het korte bestek van een recensie jammer genoeg niet op kunnen ingaan.

Dirk Luyten
CEGESOMA/Universiteit Gent

Anna Cento Bull and Philip Cooke, *Ending Terrorism in Italy* (London: Routledge, 2013) 245 p. ISBN 978-0-415-60288-4

Since 9/11 different forms of terrorism have returned to be in the centre of scholarly and intellectual attention. Numerous books have been written about both contempor-ary and historical violent contestations of the state in the last years. At a first glance *Ending Terrorism in Italy* by Anna Cento Bull and Philip Cooke published in the series 'Studies in Extremism and Democracy' seems to be just another addition to this growing literature. Upon closer inspection, however, it becomes evident that *Ending Terrorism* is different in that it attempts to conceptualize the way Italy tried to bring an end to terrorism. Having largely been considered a historical phenomenon (the last violent terrorist acts in Italy have taken place more than 20 years ago), it demonstrates to what extent Italian terrorism is still at the centre of political and social debate. By including both the perspectives of the victims and their relatives as well as the one of the former terrorists, it attempts to analyse both processes of de- radicalization and questions of reconciliation, truth and justice from the widest possible angle.

The book is divided into two main parts. After a short introduction that tries to give an overview of the explanations of the phenomenon of Italian terrorism, Part I 'Ending the violence' examines both collective and individual processes of disen-gagement. It analyses on the one hand the parliamentary process leading to the reform of the prison system and the legislation of the 1980s and on the other hand the way this has been experienced by former left- and right-wing terrorists. Basing

the analysis mainly on existing published memoirs and face-to-face interviews, the authors try to answer the question of how and why individual terrorists disengage, to what extent this can be considered an individual process and which role contextual factors and agency play.

Part II 'After terrorism' explores the legacy of terrorism as a wider social process that has left enduring feelings of mistrust among both victims and citizens. It draws from both former perpetrators' and victims' perspectives and highlights the main factors that have influenced Italy's partial and incomplete process of 'ending terrorism'. According to the authors, the fact that the nature of truth and truth recovery remains contested and provides one of the biggest obstacles to reconciliation clearly highlights the need for truth recovery and truth acknowledgement. The final chapters of Part II are comparative in nature: the testimonies of the victims and their relatives are compared and contrasted to the ones of the former terrorists and the Italian experiences are assessed in relation to Northern Ireland and Spain.

As the authors themselves point out, there are many studies on the processes of radicalization, but very few that analyze the inverse process of disengagement from violence. While studies of former terrorists abound, the role that victims and their associations play in the triangle "state-terrorists-victims" has furthermore been largely overlooked by current research. Through the analysis of story-telling by both sides, the authors are trying to close this research gap. The space dedicated to the analysis of the perspectives of the victims and their relatives is nevertheless considerable smaller than the one dedicated to the perpetrators. In light of the recognition that their views and activities have been seriously neglected by existing scholarly literature, this imbalance is surprising but does little to narrow the otherwise outstanding merits of the detailed analysis.

By not only discussing the lasting social and political legacy of terrorism in Italy but by also critically examining different ways of promoting conciliation and reconciliation processes, Bull and Crooke are able to address wider issues connected to the process of truth-telling, truth acknowledgement and democracy building. Their work thus clearly aims at fulfilling not only an academic but also a civil function. The results of their research undeniably shed new light on the question of how to successfully reintegrate former terrorists into society while avoiding at the same time the isolation of the victims. The Conclusions of the book indeed read a bit like a policy brief with clear recommendations. They provide valuable hints at the role that amnesia and post memory play in processes of personal and collective healing that will be of interest not only to historians and social scientists but also to politicians and policy makers.

Aline Sierp
Maastricht University