Foreword

A number of persons should be thanked for their patience throughout the completion of this volume. First and foremost, I wish to thank Professor Regula Forster (University of Tübingen) and Roelf Barkhuis for their constant backing and encouragement. I am also personally indebted to the Gerda Henkel Foundation for its support during my scholarship at the Freie Universität Berlin, initially as part of an EU-Marie Curie fellowship (M4HUMAN 267213) in 2013-2015 and further on as a Gerda Henkel fellow, in both cases under the guidance of Regula Forster. The contributors should also be thanked for their patience.

Many invisible hands helped in the corrections and editing of the papers. I am especially grateful to Aleid, Jenny, Wadad and Gavin, for giving me their opinion at different stages in the preparation of the manuscript. More than anyone, I wish to thank Micah for his painstaking re-reading of my English texts. I am also especially grateful to my mother for her careful reading and editing of my French contribution. Needless to say, remaining errors are mine alone. Other friends and colleagues must be named who helped me in various ways: Joost, Abdallah, Petra, Jelle, Sasha, Sergey, thank you all for your precious support.