Acknowledgments

This book was conceived as COVID-19 emerged, configured as it spread globally, carried out through the pandemic and finalized as it peaked. Every stage of the editorial process became far more complex and required so much more effort than it would normally take. Like in almost all fields of human activity, the direct and indirect effects of the pandemic presented an obstacle at times seemingly unsurmountable. In the end, the collective energy and positive spirit was able to complete the project in due time and form.

It was only thanks to that common sense of purpose and determination that this project was completed. We want to acknowledge each and every one of the women and men who have vested their best intellectual and emotional capacities into finalizing this work.

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A total of 38 authors of 17 different nationalities have taken part in this work. Each of them has a story to tell as to the obstacles the pandemic presented to complete their contributions. From health and family crises through job disruption, environmental hazards and country migration, all have been somehow affected by the pandemic, just as everyone else was the world over. The vast majority of them were able to complete their contributions and endure the review process and subsequent draft iterations. To each of them we acknowledge their professionalism and kind disposition.
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