Acknowledgments

The list of the author’s debts of gratitude is a long one.

The ideas underlying this book came into being over time in the formidable intellectual atmosphere of the Department of Ancient History, University of Warsaw, directed first by Włodzimierz Lengauer, and then by Adam Ziółkowski. Benedetto Bravo, Ryszard Kulesza, Krystyna Stebicka and Marek Węcowski all read earlier drafts of particular chapters. Jon Lendon and Kurt Raaflaub discussed with me some key problems. Maciej Daszuta provided me with many books and articles unavailable in Warsaw libraries. A grant from the De Brzezie Lanckoronski Foundation allowed me to spend summer of 2008 in the comfortable conditions of London’s various libraries, which was crucial to the crystallization of the main thesis of this book.

After the Polish book had been published as my Habilitationschrift (2012), I profited much from the critical remarks of my reviewers: Ryszard Kulesza, Krzysztof Nawotka, Marcin Pawlak and Sławomir Sprawski as well as from further discussions with Benedetto Bravo and Adam Ziółkowski who communicated to me their disagreement on some major and many minor points. Some new insights in chapters 2.3 and 4 are due to the response I received during the discussions accompanying lectures I gave in 2013 at the seminars of François de Polignac and Cléo Carastro, respectively, at ANHIMA Research Center in Paris. Finally, I benefited from the peer reviews I received from the publishers.

Due to all this critique, I made some changes in English version of my book clarifying arguments and correcting obvious errors. In some places the Polish original was expanded. I updated the bibliography and took some new studies into account (though some omissions remain, the most important being Ch. Wolff, Sparta und die pelopennisiche Staatenwelt in archaischer und klassischer Zeit, München 2010, which I was able to read only recently).
The translation of my book into English, its proofreading and editing were made possible by a grant I received from the Ministry of Science and High Education within the frame of the National Programme for the Development of Humanities. The English edition also received financial support from the University of Warsaw thanks to Maciej Duszczyk, Vice-Rector for Research and International Relations. I would like to express my deepest gratitude to all the people and institutions mentioned above.