

# Contents

<i>List of figures</i>	xii
<i>List of tables</i>	xiii
<i>List of contributors</i>	xvi
<i>Preface</i>	xviii
<b>Introduction</b>	<b>1</b>
ALESSANDRO CARRETTA AND GIANLUCA MATTAROCCHI	
<b>PART I</b>	
<b>Governance is not at issue, or is it?</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>1 Boards of directors in troubled waters! Enhancing the survival chances of distressed firms</b>	<b>9</b>
GIANPAOLO ABATECOLA, VINCENZO FARINA, AND NICCOLÒ GORDINI	
<b>2 Can interlocking directorates be good? Insight from problem loans in Italian listed banks</b>	<b>19</b>
MARINA BROGI AND VALERIA STEFANELLI	
<b>3 Corporate governance and bank performance in Italy</b>	<b>40</b>
CANDIDA BUSSOLI	
<b>4 Does governance structure affect insurance risk-taking?</b>	<b>62</b>
ANTONIO MELES AND MARIA GRAZIA STARITA	
<b>5 The advantages of board diversity: an empirical analysis of the Italian market</b>	<b>79</b>
PAOLA SCHWIZER, MARIA-GAIA SOANA AND DORIANA CUCINELLI	

**PART II**

**New roles in credit quality assessment** 97

- 6 Can peer monitoring improve loan quality? Empirical evidence from Italian cooperative banks** 99

VITTORIO BOSCIA, MATTEO COTUGNO AND  
VALERIA STEFANELLI

- 7 Loan selection and access to contractual information** 125

MASSIMO CARATELLI AND ORNELLA RICCI

- 8 The impact of discount rate choice in estimating the workout LGD for corporate and retail portfolios** 149

LUCIA GIBILARO AND GIANLUCA MATTAROCCHI

- 9 Does relationship lending alleviate the credit crunch?** 165

STEFANO MONFERRÀ AND GABRIELE SAMPAGNARO

- 10 Credit quality and economic development in China** 191

LORIS NADOTTI, MANUELA GALLO AND VALERIA VANNONI

- 11 Financial education online: does it work?** 203

GIANNI NICOLINI

**PART III**

**Competition and efficiency: do they still work in addressing performance?** 217

- 12 Too small to be compliant?: size and scale economies in the compliance cost structure of Italian banks** 219

SIMONA COSMA, GIANFAUSTO SALVADORI AND  
PAOLA SCHWIZER

- 13 Intellectual capital and bank performance: key issues related to intellectual capital disclosure** 241

GIMEDE GIGANTE AND DANIELE PREVIATI

- 14 Discussing the value relevance of earnings and book value: evidence from the Italian context** 262

ALESSANDRO GIOSI, EMILIANO DI CARLO AND  
BIANCA STAGLIANÒ

<b>15</b>	<b>Determinants of local banks' performance: an overview</b>	<b>277</b>
	ELVIRA ANNA GRAZIANO	
<b>16</b>	<b>Activity based costing in banking: reasons for the use and perceived usefulness by Italian banks</b>	<b>301</b>
	ALESSANDRO MONTRONE AND ANTARES D'ACHILLE	
<b>17</b>	<b>The relationship between corporate reputation and risk in financial intermediaries</b>	<b>325</b>
	MARIA-GAIA SOANA AND PAOLA SCHWIZER	
<b>18</b>	<b>The evolution of competition in the EU-15 banking market</b>	<b>343</b>
	FRANCESCO SAVERIO STENTELLA LOPES	
	<i>Index</i>	<b>360</b>