

Hans Blokland  
Talking Politics and Society Again

**Culture and Social Practice**

**Hans Blokland** (Prof. Dr.) is director of the NGO Social Science Works in Potsdam. He taught political science, sociology and philosophy of science at Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin and held the Corelio-Chair for Media and Democracy at Free University Brussels, and the Alfred Grosser Chair in sociology at Sciences Po in France. He was a fellow of the Royal Netherlands Academy of Arts and Sciences and held visiting positions at Yale University and Manchester University.

Hans Blokland

# Talking Politics and Society Again

Reengaging with Fellow Citizens

[transcript]

**Bibliographic information published by the Deutsche Nationalbibliothek**

The Deutsche Nationalbibliothek lists this publication in the Deutsche Nationalbibliografie; detailed bibliographic data are available in the Internet at <https://dnb.dnb.de>

**2025 © transcript Verlag, Bielefeld**

Hermannstraße 26 | D-33602 Bielefeld | [live@transcript-verlag.de](mailto:live@transcript-verlag.de)

All rights reserved. No part of this book may be reprinted or reproduced or utilized in any form or by any electronic, mechanical, or other means, now known or hereafter invented, including photocopying and recording, or in any information storage or retrieval system, without permission in writing from the publisher.

Cover design: Maria Arndt

Printing: Elanders Waiblingen GmbH, Waiblingen

<https://doi.org/10.14361/9783839476949>

Print-ISBN: 978-3-8376-7694-5 | PDF-ISBN: 978-3-8394-7694-9

ISSN of series: 2703-0024 | eISSN of series: 2703-0032

Printed on permanent acid-free text paper.

*The fact is that all the power in the world cannot transform someone who hates you into someone who likes you. It can turn a foe into a slave, but not into a friend. All the power in the world cannot transform a fanatic into an enlightened man. All the power in the world cannot transform someone thirsting for vengeance into a lover... Power has the power to prevent our annihilation for the time being. On condition that we always remember, at every moment, that in a situation like ours power can only prevent. It can't settle anything and it can't solve anything. It can only stave off disaster for a while.*

Amos Oz

*For Jesse M. B.*