This Festschrift celebrates the work of France’s most eminent living sociologist, Raymond Boudon (b. 1934). Its four volumes offer 83 articles on Boudon and the work he has inspired, by leading social thinkers and researchers.

Boudon’s grasp of and influence on European and Anglo-Saxon sociology is distinctive during a period when anti-Americanism was prevalent in French academic life.

From his path-breaking studies on education and social mobility, Boudon’s approach continually emphasised rationality and methodological individualism. His studies of key sociological thinkers, from Tocqueville, Weber, and Durkheim, to Merton and Lazarsfeld have thrown new light on their ideas. The essays collected here pay tribute to these interests and to a tirelessly active promoter of sociology for the scientific understanding and analysis of contemporary society.