Preface and acknowledgements

This volume emerged from our workshop on *Norms and Practices of Peace Operations: Evolution and Contestation* at the European Workshops in International Studies (EWIS) organised in Cardiff, 7–10 June 2017. The workshop intended to study changes in norms and practices of UN peace operations since the end of the Cold War. We are very grateful to the organisers of EWIS 2017, Christian Bueger and Benjamin Tallis, for accepting our workshop proposal, and to the participants who presented their papers, providing distinct thematic as well as theoretical perspectives, forming the basis for this volume. Although for various reasons not all papers became chapters in this volume, all participants enriched the workshop by sharing their insights and commenting on colleagues’ work.

During our discussions, we agreed that there indeed had been many changes in the practices of, and the literature on, UN peace operations. This literature is one of the fastest-growing sub-fields of International Relations. However, there was no book that provided a one-stop-shop for students and scholars who wanted to get an overview of different perspectives of International Relations theory applied to UN peace operations.

While the workshop provided a first big step towards realising such a volume, there were numerous smaller steps taken over the following three years. One year after our first meeting, some of the
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authors met again in San Francisco at the ISA Annual Convention, at the panel *Norms and Practices of Peacekeeping Operations*. We are very grateful for the feedback from Lise Howard (Chair) and Katia Coleman (Discussant), as well as comments from the audience.

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