This book provides the most comprehensive account to date of the amendment process of the Indonesian Constitution, which started after the fall of President Soeharto in 1998 and lasted until August 2002. It contains novel insights regarding the way in which this process unfolded and how the People’s Consultative Assembly managed to turn Indonesia’s Constitution from an authoritarian centerpiece into a solid foundation for a democratic state under the rule of law. Following the debates closely, the author presents them in such detail that the reader gets a true grasp of how the Assembly operated and how effective leadership combined with the will to reach consensus eventually overcame the enormous obstacles on the way.

This is a volume in the series of the Meijers Research Institute and Graduate School of the Leiden Law School of Leiden University. This study is part of the Law School’s research programme ‘Effective Protection of Fundamental Rights in a Pluralist World’.