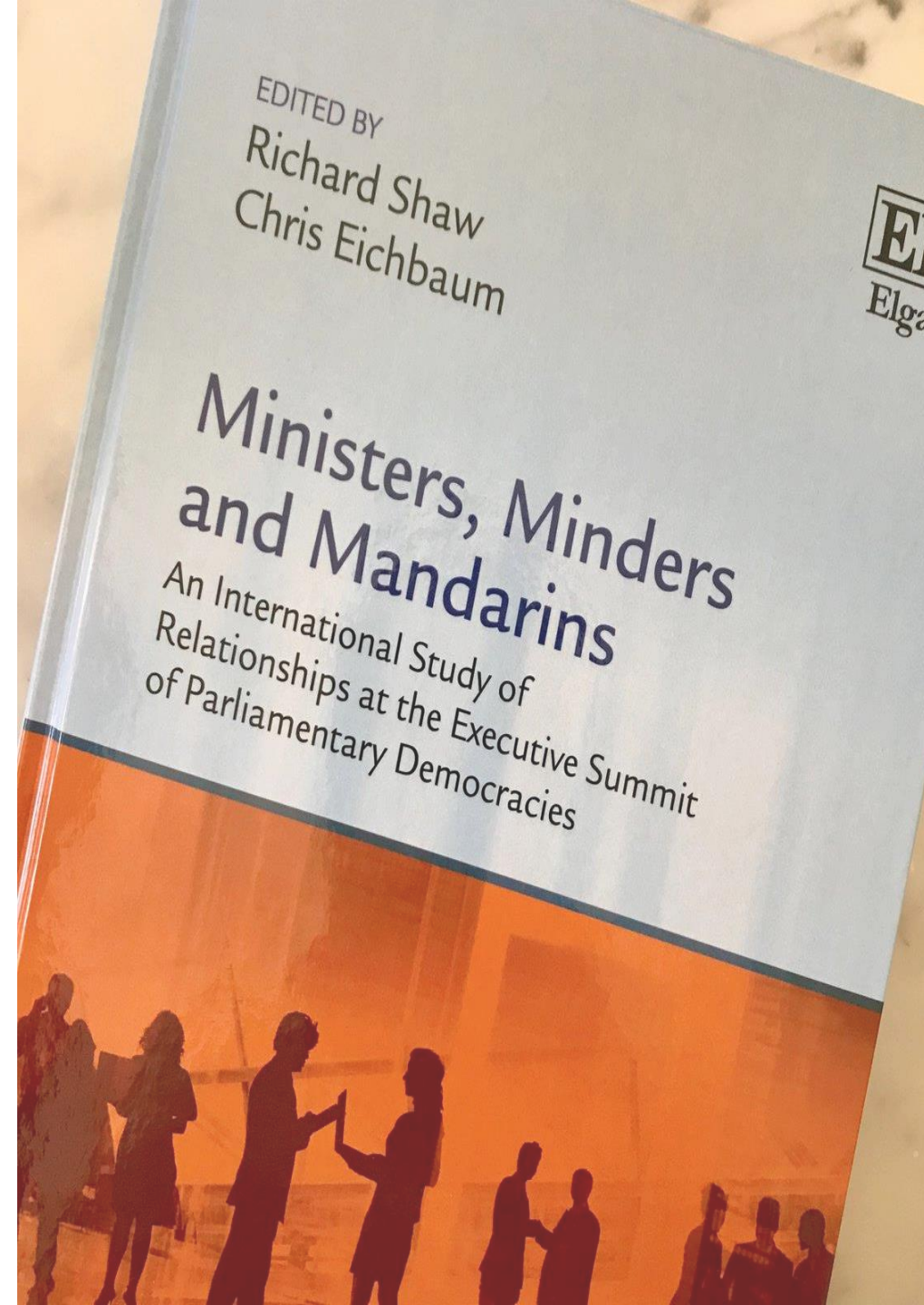


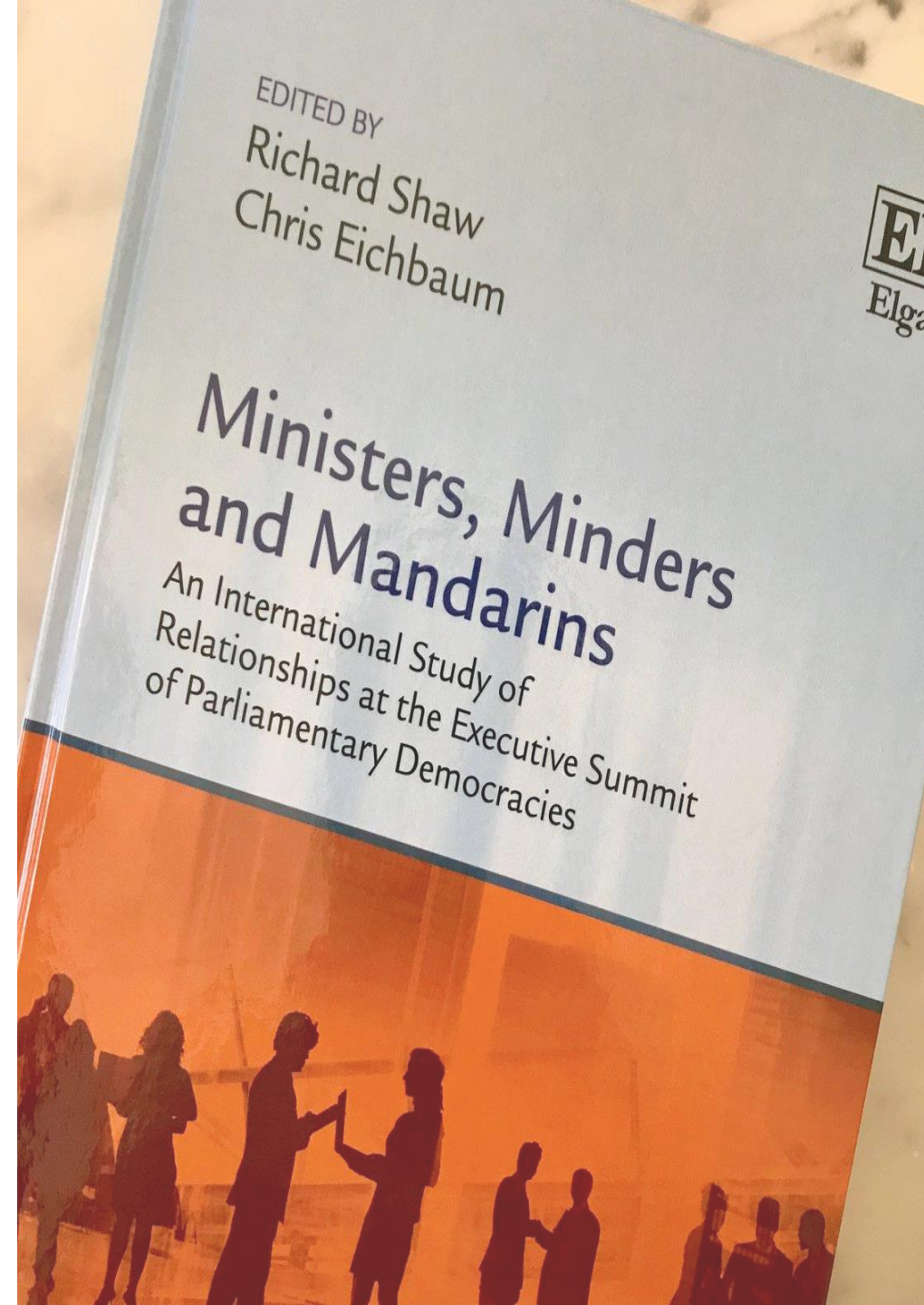
Ministers, Minders and Mandarins

Richard Shaw and Chris Eichbaum



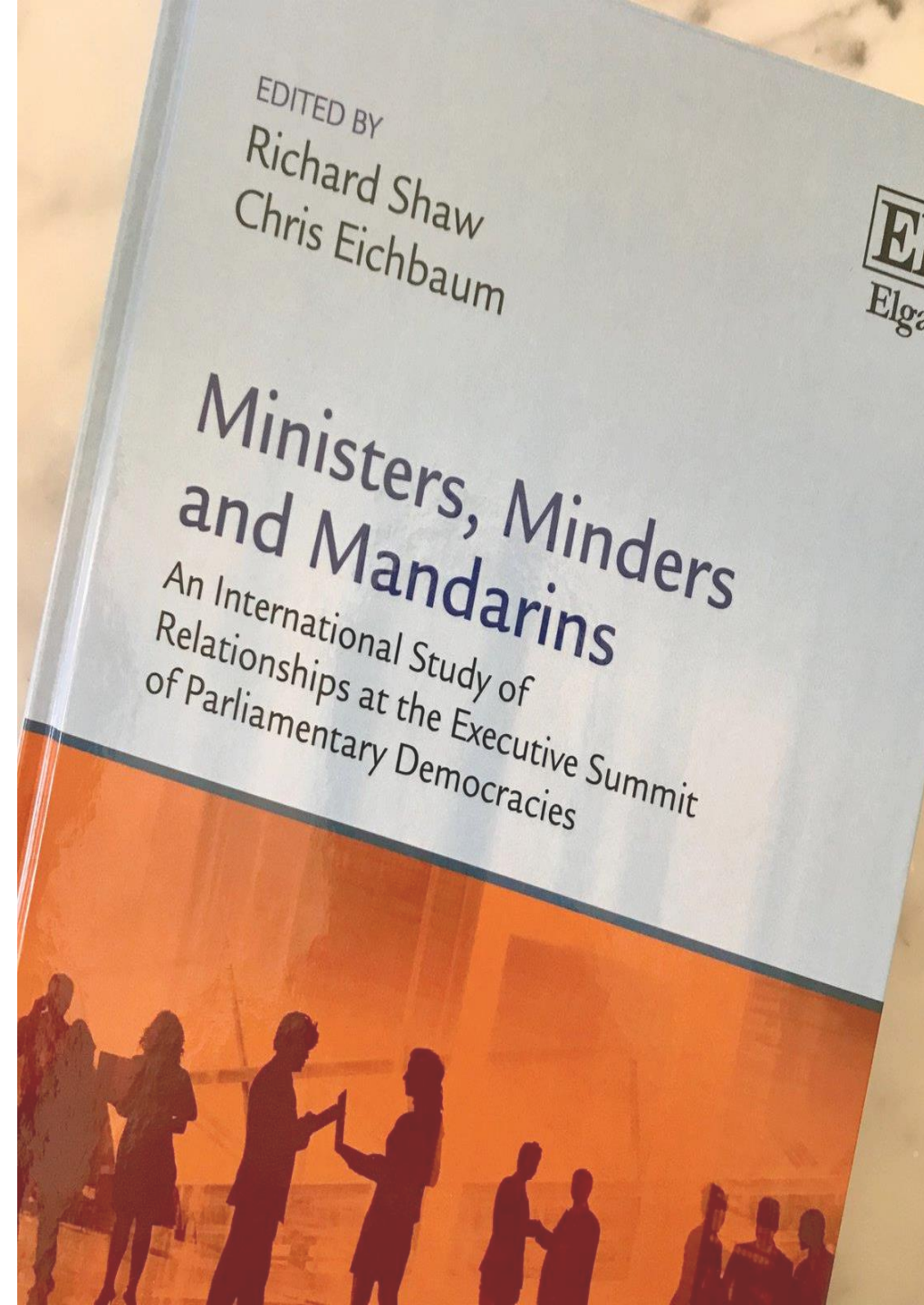
Setting the scene

David Spiers, a Liberal Party MP in the South Australian parliament, piles into the political adviser class, describing them as ‘a lazy, overweight and arrogant species, spawned from a reduced gene pool and badly in need of culling back’ (Shaw and Eichbaum 2018: 1)



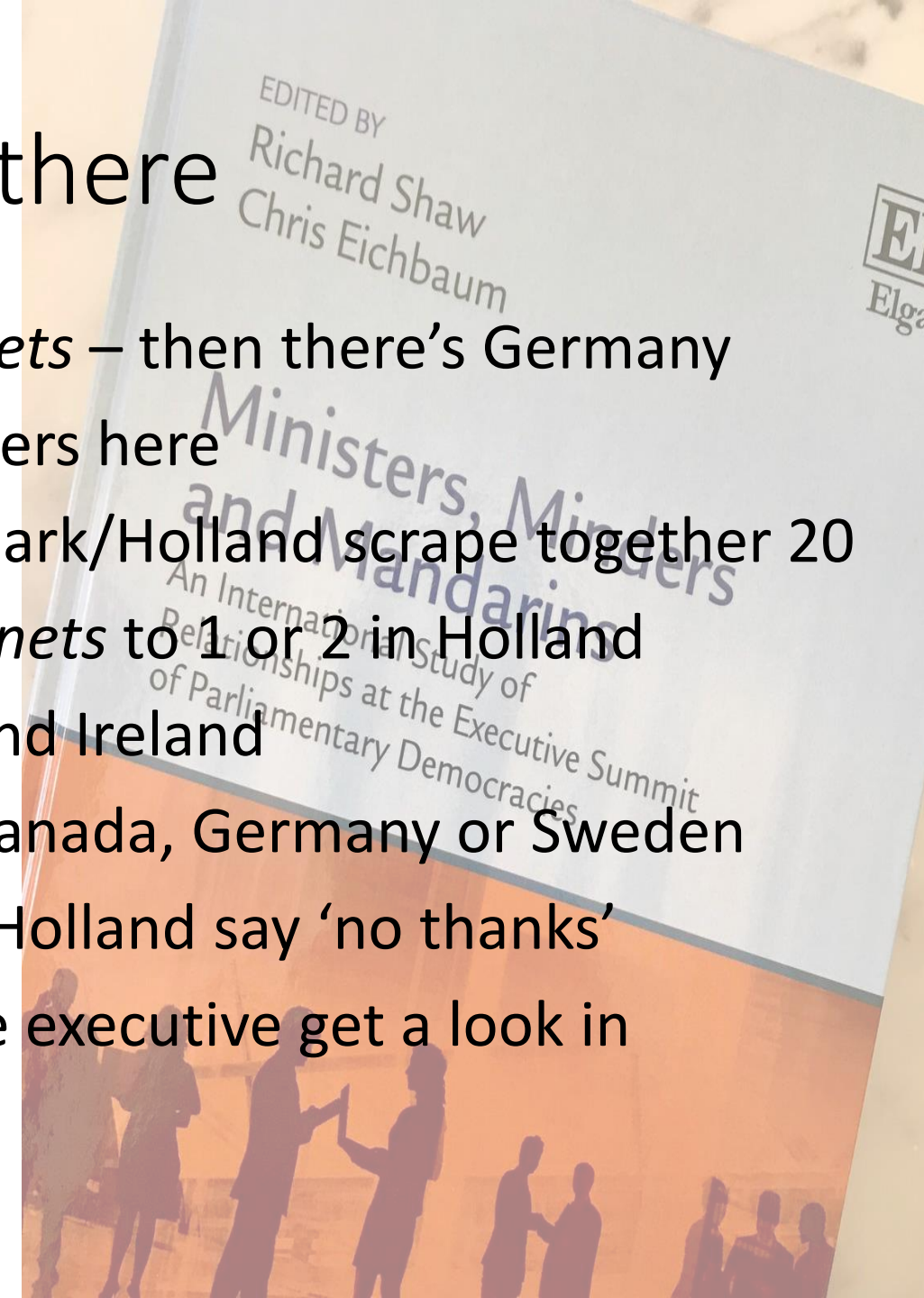
About the book

- the state of the scholarly play back in 2005
- a 'second wave' of research
- and so to the book
 - Kuhn and empirical 'puzzle solving'
 - 10 parliamentary democracies
 - Westminster meets continental Europe
 - the riding instructions to contributors:
 - describe your empirical arrangements
 - choose an issue
 - theorize it



They do things differently over there

- institutional habitat: ministerial offices & *cabinets* – then there's Germany
- physical location: NZ and Australia are the outliers here
- # advisers: Greece wins with 1,000 while Denmark/Holland scrape together 20
- # per Cabinet minister: from > 40 in Greek *cabinets* to 1 or 2 in Holland
- statutory cap on #? Only in Denmark, Greece and Ireland
- formal position description? Not in Australia, Canada, Germany or Sweden
- code of conduct? Germany, Greece, Ireland or Holland say 'no thanks'
- basis of regulation: both the legislature and the executive get a look in



Take-outs for us

- Aotearoa New Zealand:
 - we're a bit of an outlier institutionally (the executive wing; overall numbers)
 - and in our reluctance to put detail on the public record
 - we are also late-comers to formal regulation via a code of conduct
- More generally:
 - there's considerable cross-country variation
 - and just as much diversity *within* administrative traditions
 - but there's a shared interest in (and concern with) 'demarcation disputes' ...

