Acknowledgements

My involvement in spatial economics has its roots in the invitation to write and present a paper on international economic integration and spatial location of industries by Professor Bertram Schefold (Frankfurt) at a graduate summer school organised by Academia Europea (Bolzano) at a picturesque alpine resort of Bressanone/Brixen, Italy, on 31 August to 10 September 1998. While international economic integration was familiar to me, spatial economics was not very much. I accepted with delight the invitation, thinking that it would take me only a short time to draft the paper. I was wrong. It took me very much longer. I was so fascinated by the subject that my intellectual voyage continued through economic geography and through time. Several articles, a book *Geography of Production and Economic Integration* (London: Routledge, 2001) and *Evolutionary Economic Geography* (London: Routledge, 2009 and 2014; translated and published in Chinese in 2011) and a set of three edited volumes of readings entitled *Economic Integration and Spatial Location of Firms and Industries* (Cheltenham, UK and Northampton, MA, USA: Edward Elgar Publishing, 2007) followed.

During my work on this book I have benefited from human capital and discussions, as well as delightful and advantageous contacts with many friends and colleagues over long years. There are, however, several to whom I owe special gratitude for various kinds of valuable inspiration, encouragement, comments and assistance in the preparation of this book. They include Ken-ichi Ando, Lisa Borgatti, Ron Boschma, Victoria Curzon Price, Jelena Damnjanović, Nikola Jovanović, Jovan Jovanović, Richard G. Lipsey, Patrick Minford, Jovan Njegić, Richard Pomfret, Constantine Stephanou, Jale Tosun, as well as many students at various universities who took part in my lectures. The United Nations library in Geneva provided me with most of the sources. The manuscript was superbly copy-edited by Cathrin Vaughan.

Acknowledgement is due to the editors of *Economia Internazionale / International Economics* for the permission to reproduce in Chapter 13 my 2019 article ‘The supply chain economy: how far does it spread in space and time?’.

Special gratitude for financial and other support goes to the Dušan Sidjanski Centre of Excellence in European Studies of the Global Studies Institute at the University of Geneva. In addition, the Novi Sad School of Business provided logistical support.

I am grateful to all of them. The usual disclaimer, however, applies here: it is I who am responsible for all shortcomings and mistakes. In addition, the expressed views are my own and do not oblige the universities in which I work.

*Miroslav N. Jovanović*

*Geneva and Novi Sad, November 2019*