Preface

This book has been written with two audiences and two objectives in mind. First, we would like to convince our colleagues in organization theory that organizations with other organizations as members constitute an important and intriguing field of study. And second, we want to suggest to colleagues who are studying globalization and international politics that organizational theory provides a useful instrument for understanding international organizations.

Trying to address two audiences simultaneously has been a rewarding but challenging experience, requiring a few compromises. There are some – albeit different – pages of this book that provide no new insights for one of these audiences or the other. We hope, however, that these pages are few enough for the reader to maintain interest in our main argument.

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