
Acknowledgements

My involvement in international economic integration began when I was studying European integration at the University of Amsterdam (1980–81). That was the period when integration seemed to be a dead academic and research issue in economics and I had serious doubts as to whether the choice of my specialisation was correct. None the less, subsequent developments, in particular following 1985 (the Single European Market Programme from 1993, the European Monetary Union from 1999 and enlargements of the European Union) proved the contrary. A new boost of my involvement in international economic integration came when I succeeded my distinguished teacher and colleague Professor Victoria Curzon Price as a lecturer at the European Institute of the University of Geneva, following her retirement in 2008. The Institute provided a stimulating and fully supportive academic environment for teaching and research. This Handbook was written under the auspices and with the full backing of the Institute.

Over the years I have profited from discussions with and the help of many friends and colleagues worldwide. However, I owe a special debt of gratitude for inspiration, support, comments and criticism to my distinguished teachers Professor Victoria Curzon Price and Professor Richard G. Lipsey. I also express my warmest thanks to all contributors to the Handbook for their involvement, advice and constructive criticism.

The contributors to this three-volume Handbook come from a wide variety of countries and are both seniors and juniors, hence they represent both wide geographical space and various generations of scholars.

Special gratitude is due to the European Institute of the University of Geneva and its Director, Professor Nicolas Levrat and his team for their full support of the project, all the necessary encouragement and valuable input. Dušan Sidjanski, Professor Emeritus at the University of Geneva and Special Adviser to the President of the European Commission also provided useful comments and suggestions.

I would like to record my appreciation for the support given to the Handbook by the late Professor John H. Dunning. I had the privilege and joy of working closely with him during 1989–92 on the project in the United Nations Library on Transnational Corporations in New York. He kindly accepted the invitation to contribute to the Handbook, and subsequently produced a chapter with Dr Jeremy Clegg, which appears here in Volume III. We are all saddened by his loss.

I am also grateful to Edward Elgar for the invitation to edit this Handbook and to his helpful and enthusiastic team which included Nep Elverd, Alexandra O'Connell, Laura Seward and Nicolas Wilson. The volume was superbly edited by Margaret Pugh. *Un ringraziamento va a Marina Rossi che mi ha aiutato senza saperlo.*

I would also like to thank the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe for the authorisation to accept Edward Elgar's invitation to edit this Handbook.

I am grateful to all of them. The usual disclaimer, however, applies here: I am solely responsible for all shortcomings and mistakes. In addition, the views expressed are my own and do not necessarily reflect those of the organisation in which I work.

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Geneva, January 2011