

Preface

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This collection emerges from a successful ESRC Seminar Series grant, *Knowledges, Resources and Legal Regimes: The New Geopolitics of the Polar Regions* (January 2010–October 2011; RES-451-26-0661-A), awarded to the editors and accredited to the RCUK Global Uncertainties programme. Through the grant, two seminars were held at the Foresight Centre, Liverpool, two at the British Library, London, and a further postgraduate workshop at Mansfield College, Oxford. These seminars and workshops have developed an interdisciplinary and international network of academics, policy-makers and other experts, including a new generation of early career researchers, engaged with the broad field of *polar geopolitics*.

Thank you to all of those who attended the five events, from distinguished colleagues to graduate students, who participated in fascinating discussions from which we learnt so much. At the British Library, we thank Dr. Jude England and Dr. Phil Hatfield, and at the Polar Regions Department, Jane Rumble, for their support during the series. Sandra Mather provided important assistance for the Liverpool seminars.

We wish to thank all the contributors to this volume, for supplying excellent essays and engaging in the editorial process with good humour. Alex Pettifer and all the staff at Edward Elgar have been a pleasure to work with.

Finally, we would like to dedicate the volume to the late Professor Kaiyan Kaikobad, who gave an excellent paper on the Antarctic Treaty at our first seminar in Liverpool and passed away soon afterwards. We wish to record our shock and sadness at the passing of a great scholar and colleague.