

Preface

Immediately after the Lehman Brothers' collapse shocked the world economy, I decided to start a new research project on how economic crises affect paradigmatic change. I flew to New York to talk to Adam Przeworski, who had already developed an original idea on the mechanism and dynamics of policy innovation, namely, a framework concerning policy regimes. He welcomed my research plan.

I set up an international project team with my Japanese research collaborators and invited the most prominent economists and political scientists who had made significant contributions in the related fields. Although we were forced to suspend our research activities for several months in 2011, because of the earthquakes and nuclear plant accidents, our project proceeded smoothly. Since October 2010, we have organized one or two international meetings every year at Waseda University, Tokyo, and in March 2013, we held the concluding meeting at Collegio Carlo Alberto, Turin, which was hosted by Stefano Sacchi.

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