

Foreword

It gives us great pleasure to announce that Hideko Magara, one of our colleagues, has recently completed editing the fourth volume of the book *Studies*, the Institute for Research in Contemporary Political and Economic Affairs' research series published in English.

The Institute for Research in Contemporary Political and Economic Affairs at Waseda University was founded in April 1978. We have several research groups dealing with current trends and issues in the fields of political science and economics. The research results are published in the series, which is mostly in Japanese, and now numbers 38 volumes.

Our aim is to continually promote and provide financial support to the research studies published as part of the series. We sincerely hope that our research activities will contribute towards enhancing research in political science and economics.

Hideki Konishi, Director
Institute for Research in
Contemporary Political and
Economic Affairs, Waseda University
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