

Foreword and Acknowledgements

This volume brings together the results of some of the trade-related research and analysis undertaken within and on behalf of the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade over the past year. It builds on the research base established by *Trade Policy Research 2001*, taking up several of the major themes broached in the various contributions to that earlier volume, in particular trade in services. At the same time, there is a major difference: whereas last year the emphasis was on sorting out the reasons for the failed WTO Ministerial Meeting in Seattle in November/December 1999, this year the emphasis is on understanding what changed to permit the successful launch of a new round of multilateral trade negotiations at the WTO Ministerial in Doha, Qatar, in November 2001, and what might be said about the prospects for the new round, the ninth since the inception of the GATT in 1947.

An important contribution of rigorous research is to sharpen the public debate on the key issues of our times. No issue is currently of more pervasive relevance to Canadians than globalization. And no issue is today subject to more extreme rhetoric—rhetoric that sheds far more heat than light on the subject that it purportedly discusses. Trade and investment are not all there is to globalization but obviously are two of its most important and visible engines. Improving general understanding of the case for trade, and more precisely the case for further trade liberalization, is therefore an important contribution to the democratic process of informed debate.

With Canada now fully engaged in a new round of multilateral negotiations, participating actively in the on-going work towards a broader regional free trade area within the Americas, and working to strengthen bilateral trade and investment relationships with particular trading partners, Canada has taken a strong pro-trade stance. It is worthwhile to recall that, at one time and in a rather more optimistic age, what we are now trying to achieve was taken for granted as the norm. In this regard, it is worthwhile to again return to John Maynard