

## Foreword

---

This special edition of Trade Policy Research explores the subject of Global Value Chains (GVCs). The rise and evolution of GVCs is an issue of importance to Foreign Affairs and International Trade Canada. GVCs were featured prominently in the Government's Global Commerce Strategy along with the related issues of growing international competition and the growth of emerging economies. Indeed, the concept of global value chains was a key driver of the Department's focus on international commerce, which acknowledges the increasing importance of and linkages between exports, imports, trade in services, and flows of investment and technology.

Foreign Affairs and International Trade Canada is committed to undertaking policy analysis and research to better inform and guide the Department's decision making process. Sharing that work, as well as the Department's policy research interests, with the wider policy-research community is also an important objective of which the Trade Policy Research series is an important component.

It is my hope that the policy research community will benefit from the studies contained in this volume and that together we will continue work on this important topic.

André Downs  
Chief Economist  
Foreign Affairs and International Trade Canada

Ottawa  
June, 2011