

PREFACE

This volume represents joint work carried out by a team of Japanese economists in the field of Russian studies with the aim of understanding Russia's integration into the world economy. This joint project was financed by the fund of the Ministry of Education and Science in the form of a grant-in-aid for the comprehensive research on Russia's integration into the world economy from 2001 to 2004. Support for this project will continue through funding from the same Ministry as a grant-in-aid for the research project entitled, "Russian capitalism and the flow of financial resources" from 2005 to 2008, and also funded by the 21st Century COE Program "Making a discipline of Slavic Eurasian studies: meso-areas and globalization" from 2003 to 2007.

In Chapter 1 of this volume, we summarize the characteristics of our joint research and our major findings. In Chapter 2, we present findings estimating the real size of the oil and gas sector in the Russian economy. Actually, Chapter 2 is reprinted from *Eurasian Geography and Economics* (Vol. 46, No. 1, 2005). We would like to thank the editor of that journal for the permission to include that publication in this volume.

Chapters 3 and 4 showcase two of our favorite methods of research using input-output tables and balance of payments, respectively. Chapter 3 analyses the influences of the oil industry throughout the whole economy. Chapter 4 investigates the problem of capital flight from Russia. In the final chapter, Chapter 5, a micro analysis of the oil and gas industry is conducted.

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