

About the authors

Peter Karl Kresl is Charles P. Vaughan Professor of Economics and Professor of International Relations at Bucknell University (USA) (Emeritus), where he has taught since 1969. His PhD was from the University of Texas (Austin). He has been visiting professor or researcher at the Norwegian School of Economics and Business, Lund University (Sweden), Carleton University (Canada), the University of Vermont and McGill University (Canada), where he was Seagram Visiting International Researcher. His articles have appeared in many journals, including *Urban Studies*, the *Journal of European Integration* and the *American Review of Canadian Studies*. His books include: with Sylvain Gallais, *France Encounters Globalization* (Edward Elgar); with Earl Fry, *The Urban Response to Internationalization* (Edward Elgar) and *The Urban Economy and Regional Trade Liberalization* (Praeger); and he has co-edited, with Gary Gappert, *North American Cities and the Global Economy* (Sage). He is, with Ni Pengfei, co-founder and currently director of the Urban Competitiveness Project, and they have co-authored *The Urban Competitiveness Report* (Edward Elgar). The research for this book was largely conducted while he was visiting researcher at the International Center for Economic Research, in Turin, Italy.

Daniele Ietri earned his Masters Degree in Economics (2002) and his Doctorate (2005) in Economic Geography from the University of Turin. After the PhD, from 2005 to 2009, he served as research assistant at the Inter-university Department of Territorial Studies and Planning in Turin, and as lecturer in Economic Geography at the Faculty of Economics in Cuneo, Italy. He has been a consultant for local administrations and research institutions in Italy and the European Union. His main research interests are: urban and regional competitiveness (he is a member of the Urban Competitiveness Project), geography of networks, and the policies and integration process of the European Union. He has given presentations on these topics in conferences in Europe and the USA. He is the author of papers, book chapters and teaching material in English and in Italian. This book, in collaboration with Professor Kresl, is his first monographic work.