

## Preface

The impact of economic and political institutions on economic outcomes has interested economists and political scientists for many years. Nevertheless, the subject did not make it into the economic mainstream for a long time. Recently, however, a surge of research has provided new theoretical and empirical insights, turning this topic into a vibrant area of enquiry. This book collects original studies on institutions and economic performance, written by economists, political scientists, and economic historians, who are members of the program on Institutions, Organizations and Growth (IOG) of the Canadian Institute for Advanced Research (CIFAR). All the chapters of the book were written by members of this program, some in collaboration with other scholars. Members of the IOG program met regularly over a period of three years to discuss their work. The amount of research they produced is much too large to be collected in a single volume; it has been published in scientific journals, edited volumes and books. What we offer instead is a glimpse into this research, which is representative of the group's larger effort and, arguably, of the research agenda of this entire field.



## Institutions and Economic Performance

