Transforming Markets
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Volume 1 of the *History of the EBRD* was completed in March 2020, shortly after the Covid-19 pandemic imposed the first lockdown in the UK and many other countries. At the time, it was hoped—even without knowing whether vaccines would be successful—that life would be back to normal by the end of that summer. Preparations for Volume 2 began with that expectation.

More than one year later, the coronavirus is still present and continues to create pressures on the working lives of those with whom we talked during the course of writing this book. Our sincere thanks goes to them, the many people connected with the Bank, past and present, who have contributed in various ways to this second volume of the EBRD’s history. The list is long so it is attached at the end of this note.

The current President of the EBRD, Odile Renaud-Basso, has lent her full support to the project which was first suggested by her predecessor, Suma Chakrabarti. We are heavily indebted to them both.

Writing a book in a “virtual” setting during a pandemic has been a challenging experience. We are fortunate that technological advances have allowed the task to be accomplished in time for the 30th anniversary year of EBRD operations. It certainly would not have been possible without the benefit of video internet platforms that by now have become commonplace. On that note, we should credit the scientists and engineers who have made this possible, and at the same time hope that we can soon return to face-to-face communication.

Writing and researching via remote access has its challenges, but these are small in comparison to the disruption faced by the world of publishing over the past year. Our heartfelt thanks go to CEU Press who have supported our endeavour throughout, and especially to Linda Kunos, Senior Editor.

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Andrew Kilpatrick
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