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Edited by T. V. Paul

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International Relations Theory and Regional Transformation

Regional transformation has emerged as a major topic of research during the past few decades, much of it seeking to understand how a region changes into a zone of conflict or cooperation and how and why some regions remain in perpetual conflict. Although all the leading theoretical paradigms of International Relations have something to say about regional order, a comprehensive treatment of this subject is missing from the literature. This book suggests that cross-paradigmatic engagement on regional orders can be valuable if it can generate theoretically innovative, testable propositions and policy-relevant ideas. The book brings together scholars from the dominant IR perspectives aiming to explain the regional order issue through multidimensional and multicausal pathways, and seeking meeting points between them. Using insights from IR theory, the contributors offer policy-relevant ideas which may benefit conflict-ridden regions of the world.

T. V. Paul is Director of the McGill/University of Montreal Centre for International Peace and Security Studies (CIPSS) and James McGill Professor of International Relations in the Department of Political Science at McGill University. He specializes in International Relations, especially international security, regional security, and South Asia.

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Acknowledgments

This volume evolved out of a conference I organized as part of the “Globalization and Regional Security Orders” team project at the McGill/University of Montreal Center for International Peace and Security Studies (CIPSS) in May 2010. The volume is one of several works this project has sponsored that explore the issue of security and peace in an era of deepened globalization, by its core members, John A. Hall, Michel Fortmann, Vincent Pouliot, Norrin Ripsman, and myself. The funding for the conference came from the Fonds Québécois de Recherche sur la Société et la Culture (FQRSC), Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada (SSHRC), James McGill Chair, and the Security and Defence Forum (SDF) research grants. Two successful panels were held at the March 2011 International Studies Association annual conference, and contributors thoroughly reviewed their papers in view of the comments they received from the discussants and the two anonymous reviewers of Cambridge. I thank the following discussants at the Montreal conference – Zhiming Chen, Peter Jones, Michael Lipson, Vincent Pouliot, Stéfanie von Hlatky, and Norrin Ripsman – and the two discussants at the ISA panels, Patrick Morgan and Steven Lobell. Able research assistance was provided by Steven Loleski and Mahesh Shankar. John Haslam, our editor at Cambridge University Press, showed much interest in this book project.

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