

PREFACE AND ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

This book is interdisciplinary and influenced and supported by professionals from both political science and economics. My hope is that it demonstrates that research which crosses the boundaries separating disciplines within the social sciences can be done rigorously and can also inform policy discussions.

The work was completed thanks to Max Corden's relentless support. His gentle pressure during this process forced me to complete the research. More importantly, I must thank Professor Corden for his scholarly writings on trade policy, which guided my thinking on the political economy of protection. Carol Wise was always available to discuss my work. Jim Riedel made great efforts to teach me trade theory and provided insightful comments to an earlier version of this manuscript. I am deeply grateful to Sarath Rajapatirana of the American Enterprise Institute for providing detailed comments. I am indebted to Sebastian Edwards of the Anderson School of Management at UCLA for teaching me econometrics and for allowing me to use our joint work on the political economy of unilateral liberalization in Chile. Guillermo Perry of the World Bank allowed me to take time off from the office to finish this book. William Maloney was always a pleasure to talk to and provided comments on preliminary econometric results.

My parents, Sara and Esteban, have always been a source of inspiration, especially during recent hardships. Andrés and David Lederman motivated me by their enthusiasm and their own academic accomplishments.

My wife and longtime companion, Lisa Goldblatt, pressed all the right buttons at the crucial moments. This book would not have been finished without her. Thanks, my dearest friend.