

# *Trade Patterns in the Former Soviet Union*

*Five Years' Policy Experience  
and the Future*



*Andrei Vavilov  
and  
Oleg Vyugin*

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This book investigates the problems associated with integration of the former Soviet republics into the world economic system. The authors began to monitor and to study these problems at precisely the time when the leaders of the three Slavonic republics were officially declaring that the Soviet Union had ceased to exist and would be replaced by the Commonwealth of Independent States. Although many of the political, economic, and organizational features of the new Commonwealth were unclear, it was obvious that these dramatic events would strongly influence world markets in the near future. The adoption of market principles and the opening of the economies of the former republics of the Soviet Union contribute to the establishment of new international relations, new export markets, the accumulation of resources to finance imports, and the creation of new investment opportunities.

The disintegration of the Soviet Union opened up an extremely broad field for research and forecasting, other aspects of which are discussed in world scientific and public literature. This volume concentrates on the topic of trade relations among the former republics, and between them and the rest of the world taking into account the type and consistency of macroeconomic and trade policy which were introduced in the FSU states. In the authors' view, the most important political and economic consequences of disintegration are to be found in this sphere.

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