

## **A Note from the New Editor:**

This is the first issue under our new editorial team so it seems appropriate to say a few words about our goals for Comparative Economic Studies.

In taking over the editorship of the journal, I am joined by Ali Kutan and Istvan Szekely who have kindly agreed to be co-editors. It is our hope that we will continue to publish material of interest to the members of the association.

As the field continues to change it is important that Comparative Economic Studies continues to change also. Where once the focus of comparative economic studies was on a comparison between centrally-planned economies and market economies, the transformation of the former centrally-planned economies into market economies makes such studies less relevant. Still, scholars of comparative economic studies have continued to study countries that were formerly centrally-planned. As a result Comparative Economic Studies has become a journal that publishes papers more or less focused on those countries that previously, and in some cases still have elements of, a centrally-planned economy. These countries continue to have many problems in common.

As these countries adopt market institutions many of their problems are similar to problems in other emerging market economies. It is, therefore, valuable to compare and contrast the experience in the former centrally-planned economies with the experience in other emerging market economies. In the next issue we will publish papers from last summer's Dubrovnik conference on financial sector problems in emerging markets. Two other papers from that conference by Burnside and Keren-Ofer appear in this issue.

The changes since 1989 have also made it easier to create a dialogue between Western scholars and scholars from the region. We would like to encourage scholars from the region to submit papers to Comparative Economic Systems. We are particularly interested in papers that have a policy focus. As change in the region continues to go forward at a rapid pace, we hope to publish papers in a timely fashion.

Under Robert Stuart's stewardship, the journal continued to build on the foundation established by his predecessors. It is our hope that we will be able to continue in this tradition and find ways to make Comparative Economic Studies an even more valuable resource for the comparative systems community.

Jeffrey B. Miller  
Editor