

FINLAND
and the
GLOBALISATION
of
INNOVATION

Jyrki Ali-Yrkkö and Christopher Palmberg (Eds.)

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PREFACE

This book brings together the outputs of two years of research related to the project 'Finland's Position in the Globalisation of Innovation Activity (FINGIA)' It complements and elaborates further on a previous project entitled 'Multi-national Enterprises in the Finnish Innovation System (MEFIS)'. Both of these projects have constituted a part of the PROACT research program commissioned by the Ministry of Trade and Industry and the National Technology Agency of Finland (Tekes). We wish to express our gratitude to the organisers of the PROACT research program and gratefully thank the Ministry of Trade and Industry for funding the project. They have thereby also contributed to strengthening further the tradition of research at Etlatieto/ETLA on globalisation, the internationalisation of firms and the activities of Finnish multinationals.

The content of this book has benefited from numerous discussions with our colleagues in Finland and abroad, as well as from workshops, conferences and peer reviewers. We wish to thank especially Pekka Ylä-Anttila and Raimo Lovio who have provided valuable insights into the internationalisation of Finnish firms and the globalisation of innovation. Further, Tuomo Nikulainen has provided valuable help with data collection on strategic alliances of Finnish firms. Kimmo Aaltonen, Virpi Haavisto and Anthony de Carvalho have given the final, and much appreciated, touches to this book. Last, but not least, we wish to thank the chief technology officers and other firm representatives who generously have shared their time with us for interviews about issues of relevance to the topics analysed and discussed in this book. Without these contributions our understanding of the position of Finland in globalisation would certainly have been meagre.

We hope that this book will highlight new and interesting research results, observations and conclusions on the challenges that Finland faces in the way ahead and thereby also contributes to discussions about the scope and focus of innovation policy now and in the future.

Jyrki Ali-Yrkkö and Christopher Palmberg

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