ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

As is the case with any book, but perhaps particularly with an edited book, this text would not have been possible in its current form without the assistance, encouragement and insight of a range of people to whom we are indebted. We are grateful to Alex Bellamy who was closely involved in the conception of, and initial planning for, the project. Ken Booth provided inspiration and moral support as we sought to place the book with publishers. At Manchester University Press, Peter Lawler and Tony Mason were enthusiastic supporters of the project and provided incisive editorial advice. Thanks also to Xiangning (Sunny) Wu for her excellent work on the index at short notice. Some of our thinking and conception of the book's arguments was developed while the editors were studying and teaching at politics and international relations departments at the University of Queensland; the University of Adelaide; the University of Wales, Aberystwyth; the University of New South Wales; and the University of Birmingham. We are grateful to those institutions and our colleagues there for their support and for being great sounding boards for our ideas. Anthony Burke thanks Professor To-Hai Liou, Dr Kwei-Bo Huang and the staff and students of the Department of Diplomacy, National Chengchi University, Taipei, who hosted him at the Conference on East Timor and Asian Security in 2002, where some of the thinking for the Introduction was developed and refined. Matt McDonald thanks the students of his Masters-level Asia-Pacific Security course at the University of Birmingham and the course co-convenor, Julie Gilson, for helping to shape the structure and aims of the book. He also wishes to thank the staff and students of the Institute of Asia-Pacific Studies at the University of Nottingham who gave valuable feedback on an earlier version of his chapter presented in the Institute's seminar series in December 2005. We are of course grateful to the contributors, who under the burden of other commitments agreed to contribute far-reaching and high-quality chapters that we hope will greatly advance the debate and take-up of critical security thinking in the Asia-Pacific region. Finally, to our ever-supportive partners Jen and Helen: thanks for everything.

Anthony Burke
Matt McDonald