Part I

The general framework: goals and norms

Editors' remarks

The three chapters in the opening part of this volume are based on 'keynote' speeches delivered at the conference on Business and Security. Their dual role is to outline the novelty, urgency and mould-breaking character of the latest security threats—in other words, to show *why* a new look at public–private sector cooperation is needed—and to suggest some first guidelines for *how* this cooperation might be approached.

Writing on the basis of long experience in national and international public-sector work, and in private business, respectively, István Gyarmati and Erik Belfrage both stress the universal and *intrusive* character of today's terrorist and criminal threats. The ordinary citizen is personally and permanently exposed in a way that is quite different from the nuclear stalemate of the cold war. Every branch of business may be damaged physically and economically, and driven to change its working habits. Globalization of the economy creates universal interdependence, while globalization of information flows has the potential to universalize terror. The traditional state apparatus neither wields the means nor can raise the resources to protect against these challenges completely. Those functions which are traditionally reserved for states, such as a deterrent posture and military retaliation, have far less impact on the new adversaries. Companies' and citizens' help to detect the wrong-doers, to starve them of resources and to 'harden' all vulnerable social targets against them is not just vital but of larger proportional weight in the security balance than even before.

Gyarmati and Belfrage both discuss the best means of bringing government and business together to work on these challenges. They both advise sensitivity to the private sector's own needs, its limitations and its principles (e.g., on controlling the end-use of any information handed over to state organs). The new partnerships should not be a matter of subordinating business in any crude and narrow way to the police functions of the state. The broader the interface can be between all fields of governance and all the private sector's representative groupings, the better. The more the methods of coordination can approximate to industry's own natural networking practices, the more effective they are likely to be.

Both authors also touch on the importance of a fair and transparent legislative framework. The chapter by Daniel Tarschys takes up this normative aspect of the challenge in much greater detail. He recalls that the world is not only driven, and civilized societies do not only measure themselves, by the kind of 'values' that can be quantified in financial terms or by the indices of military strength. The closer one looks at these latter types of statistics, in any case, the more ambiguous they become. The story of Europe since World War II has been one of steady (if painful and incomplete) progress towards defining other 'values' of a political, legal and moral kind, which should guide policy making at both the national and the international level. The current juncture, when violent threats are moving closer to the individual grass roots of society and at the same time becoming more truly universal, is no moment to throw away the hard-won achievements of our era in protecting both individual and universal rights. The almost biblical question inherent in Tarschys' analysis—what profit would there be in saving the world's riches but losing its soul?—hangs as an open challenge over the rest of this volume.