# PREFACE

Our project to publish a volume of studies on Mario Bunge's *Treatise on Basic Philosophy* was started in December 1987 on the initiative of Professor Leszek Nowak, who had invited us to become guest editors of this volume in his series "Poznan Studies in the Philosophy of the Sciences and Humanities", published by Rodopi.

We readily agreed because we shared and still share his opinion that it is a great event in contemporary philosophy that an eminent philosopher such as Mario Bunge is trying to combine specialised philosophical disciplines to a great synthesis on a high technical level; and that this event, although it is still going on, should be described and discussed in detail so that philosophers as well as theoretical scientists become more acquainted with it than they are now. We hope that our volume will be an important step in this endeavour by offering a forum of criticism and debate on Mario Bunge's *Treatise*.

We thank our authors for their cooperation and Mario Bunge for taking part in the debate himself by replying to each contribution. We also thank Mrs. Gabriele Köbrunner-Krisch for typing this volume in her customary efficient manner.

Salzburg
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