

John Maynard Keynes 1937–1946: the Creation of International Macroeconomics: A Review article on *John Maynard Keynes 1937–1946: Fighting for Britain* by Robert Skidelsky

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The Economic Journal, Volume 113, Issue 488, June 2003, Pages F338–F361,
<https://doi.org/10.1111/1468-0297.00138>

Published: 03 June 2003

Extract

1. Introduction: Keynes As International Macroeconomist

In his introduction to this biography, Robert Skidelsky writes: ‘if [it] has rescued Keynes from the economists, and placed him in the world of history, where he properly belongs, it will have achieved its aim’. (p. xxii). Judged against its author’s objective, the book is a triumph. But, for ‘the economists’, there is more to be said.

This is the third and final volume of Robert Skidelsky’s monumental biography of John Maynard Keynes. In Volume 1 (published in 1983) we saw the young Keynes become philosopher and theorist of probability, inspiring teacher of Marshallian economics, war-time civil servant, and, with the publication of the *Economic Consequences of the Peace*, public intellectual. Volume II (which appeared in 1992) described Keynes’ involvement with the theory of economic policy, the fifteen-year run-up to the publication of his *General Theory of Employment, Interest and Money* in 1936, and his heart attack, which nearly killed him a year later, at the age of 53.

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