

Canada's weight in the world, in that we dispose of
 less directly bilateral leverage or influence,
 multilateralism is also a buffer for those Canadians
 who sense the potential for vulnerability to the
 actions of a very much larger neighbour. We also
 abhor conflicts between the US and Western Europe
 which present us with agonizing choices. So we press
 for multilateral discussion, and conflict resolution,
 whether through the UN, such exercises as the Law of
 the Sea, or through policy coordination in NATO.

This is not on occasion as logical a route
 for the US which has its specific interests at play,
 often more amenable to unilateral or bilateral
 reconciliation. Yet, the US seems to be increasingly
 accepting recourse to multilateral fora, as a way of
 resolving disputes. Indeed, on the bilateral issue
 of specific application of the Canadian Foreign
 Investment Review Act, the US has sought recourse to
 the GATT, which we do not oppose.

All in all, it would seem that we do have
 more frequent divergencies multilaterally but that these
 are seen to be normal and I can assure you from personal

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