Since the Treaty represents the codification and formalization of principles of international law, many of which were set out in the 1963 United Nations Declaration on Outer Space, and because of Canada's active role in the space field and in the international legal sphere, and moreover, because of the importance of the Treaty for the development of the rule of law in outer space, it is particularly appropriate for Canada, by its ratification, to be among the first countries to formally accept the principles which the Treaty enshrines.