

In any discussion of sanctions, it is worth noting that South Africa itself imposes on its neighbours sanctions and restrictions on trade that have an impact beyond any barrier the West has placed in the path of South Africa.

Canada's policy also involves scholarships to blacks, support to NGO's, helping the victims of apartheid, a code of standards affecting Canadian businesses operating in South Africa, and other measures. Coupled with sanctions, these constitute an effective package; without sanctions, the other measures would have little effect. Indeed, in the quarter century since South Africa's departure from the Commonwealth, when the rest of the world avoided sanctions, Pretoria avoided change. If there has been some movement recently, it is partly because sanctions have been introduced. The question now becomes: What further sanctions will be effective, at what pace, in the company of what other measures?

The question of singling out South Africa is easier. South Africa singles out itself. Apartheid is a unique system of racial prejudice built into the Constitution. That deliberate constitutional inequality is even more offensive in a society which otherwise pretends to respect the standards of Western democracies and free societies.

Human rights questions are of primary concern to a country like Canada. The Prime Minister has raised specific questions directly and personally, in Korea, in China, in Zimbabwe, in meetings with Soviet leaders. I do the same, and sometimes we are successful.

The problem is more difficult in countries that make no pretense to freedom, and operate isolated or limited economies, as in the case in the Soviet system. But I have worked as hard to free Danylo Schumuk from prison in the Soviet Union as I have to free Nelson Mandela in South Africa. And certainly I do not accept the implication that we must have free societies behind the Iron Curtain before we can insist on real movement towards equality in South Africa.