

paper technology to Czechoslovakia and Poland. Elsewhere, progress has been steady, but less spectacular. And in return, these countries, which have not historically been important trading partners for Canada, are finding better ways of selling their products in the unfamiliar Canadian market – witness the Lada car.

With human contacts – family reunification, family visits, visa questions and the like – progress also escapes easy generalization. With some countries of Eastern Europe, for example, family reunification has virtually ceased to exist as a problem; with others, we seem to be dealing with a hard core of intractability. Despite a great deal of effort, we have yet to succeed in concluding satisfactory consular agreements with these countries. A basic stumbling block is dual nationality, where a bridge has to be found over a wide gap in legal and social systems. This is a problem of intense concern to thousands of Canadians, as reaction in this country to recent changes in Soviet and Czech citizenship laws demonstrated. Yet we persist in negotiation, and I have by no means given up hope of placing consular relations with the Eastern European countries on a more satisfactory footing.

These and other matters will be evoked collectively when the signatories of the Final Act of Helsinki meet next year in Madrid to follow up the Conference on Security and Co-operation in Europe. Canada will be able to report that, in the implementation of the Final Act, useful if modest progress is being registered here and there, to which we contribute our share. At the same time, we shall no doubt be pointing to the serious failures of implementation which mar the record, and calling once again on governments to respect the commitments they have themselves undertaken in freely subscribing to the Final Act. We have the difficult task of persuading others that our championing of human rights is not a disguised program for subverting the regimes of Eastern Europe, but a plea for respect for those individual freedoms inscribed in a number of international charters, including the Final Act of Helsinki. Public support for *détente* in the West cannot otherwise be sustained. There is strong public and parliamentary interest in the preparations for the Madrid meeting, which I hope will find its focus as well within the framework of the foreign policy review.

I end, therefore, as I began, with the review of foreign policy. This is surely an appropriate time to take stock of our relations with Europe. I have suggested that it should be an assessment that proceeds from acceptance of our fundamental friendship to a search for new and innovative ways to develop. I invite you, and your colleagues across the country, to be an important and actively contributing part of this process.