

continue depends in part, at least, on a Western willingness to respond positively in areas of mutual interest--arms control in particular.

Other factors also contributed to this improvement. The costs of war helped to persuade Iran, South Africa, Nicaragua, Vietnam, and the USSR to seek the settlement of conflict. The burden of debt and poverty in many countries emphasized the need for global management of North/South relations, and threats to the natural environment encouraged the trend towards international cooperation. Equally, however, these pressures challenged the capacities of many states to provide their citizens with basic human rights. If peace depends on justice as well as order, it was far from clear in 1988 that peace was closer to hand.

As noted above, the Canadian response to Gorbachev's "new thinking" was positive but cautious. At the United Nations Canada supported traditional NATO policies on disarmament, despite defections by other NATO members. However, in Canada there was popular support for defence policies that put less reliance on allies, particularly the US. The potential costs and trade-offs of such policies, implying increased defence expenditures if current NATO commitments are to be kept, had not been resolved at year's end. Indeed, if detente becomes the norm rather than the exception in East/West relations they will become progressively more difficult to resolve. Redefining Canada's place in the Alliance to a receptive public without exaggerating the virtues of national sovereignty will be an important task in 1989.

Indeed, it has long been true that the Canadian identity has found its most satisfying expression through emphasis on the need for international cooperation to deal