



**REPORT FROM THE SECOND ANNUAL ACADEMIC ROUNDTABLE:
ACADEMIA AND FOREIGN POLICY: AHEAD OR BEHIND THE CURVE?**

**May 5, 2000
Ottawa**

On May 5, 2000, the Canadian Centre for Foreign Policy Development brought together 23 academics from across Canada to address some key foreign policy challenges and to connect with Department officials. The academics included, among others, Yasmeeen Abu-Laban (University of Alberta), Louis Bélanger (Université Laval), Andrew Cooper (University of Waterloo), Claire Cutler (University of Victoria), Debra Stienstra (University of Winnipeg), David Close (Memorial University of Newfoundland) and Peter Howard (American University). The Roundtable coincided with the last day of the Second Annual Graduate Student Seminar. The 14 graduate students who came to Ottawa from across Canada for the week-long Seminar also participated in the roundtable discussion with Jill Sinclair (Global and Human Issues Bureau), Alan Bowker, (International Academic Relations Division), William Dymond (Policy Planning Division) and other Department officials. The morning discussion focussed on Human Security, Globalisation was addressed in the afternoon. The roundtable was an opportunity to exchange views and ideas and to strengthen policy networks and partnerships. The academics and the students had an opportunity to meet the General Directors of geographic/thematic bureau throughout the day.

1. Introduction

Steven Lee, Chair, started the discussion by welcoming all and drawing attention to the work of the graduate students who came to Ottawa to participate in the Second Annual Graduate Student Seminar, also organised by the Canadian Centre for Foreign Policy Development (CCFPD). The students presented their work to each other on the *Role of NGOs and Civil Society in Conflict and Humanitarian Efforts*, department officials and some NGOs. The Seminar offered them an opportunity to learn about different perspectives and to develop networks with each other as well as with others in the foreign policy community.

The Chair reminded participants that youth is a key priority of the Canadian government, the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade and Minister Axworthy himself. He pointed to the work of the CCFPD on human security and globalisation-related issues, especially in the context of the OAS. He also drew attention to the partnerships the Centre has forged with the academic community in the past, including a project with the United Nations University (Tokyo) addressing New Diplomacy. The Centre actively seeks the views and participation of Canadian academics in the consultations it conducts and the papers it funds and commissions.