

In that connection, too, we both share the same fundamental values regarding international behaviour. We have similar perceptions and take similar approaches to a number of important issues -- the maintenance of international peace and security, the need for a balance of power in the world, political and economic relationships between East and West, international economic relations, and world trade. In our determination to advance the North-South dialogue, our goals are similar -- to meet the United Nations' objective of .7 of one per cent of our gross national product by the end of this decade.

Both Canada and Italy are middle-sized countries -- without imperial ambitions or pretensions towards power. We are each conscious of the unique contribution which our countries can make through the international organizations of which we are members -- the United Nations (U.N.), the North Atlantic Alliance (NATO), the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT), the World Bank and International Monetary Fund (IMF). Our heads of government both participate in summit meetings of the seven most industrialized countries.

In the formulation of international policies and positions, Canada is often impelled to play a role of moderator and catalyst vis-à-vis the United States. In many ways this role is comparable with that of Italy toward its partners in the European Community.

Both Canada and Italy have demonstrated that they are dedicated and loyal members of the Western community. In our relations with allies and friends, we ourselves are convinced and wish to convince others of the merits of full consultation and closer co-operation on the basis of equality, interdependence and solidarity. Both our countries strive to make certain that our voices are heard, our contribution appreciated, and our influence recognized.

Both Canada and Italy are heavily dependent on foreign trade for our economic prosperity. The growth of commercial exchanges between our two countries in recent years is encouraging, but is not the most important aspect of our economic relationship. While our resource base and our industrial development and expertise are different, they tend in some ways to complement each other and we both have a strong common interest in advancing world-wide free trade, in combating protectionism and in preventing the balkanization of the world into even more restrictive and self-seeking trading blocs. International trade has been much liberalized over the past 25 years, but now that the world economy is passing through a