



# The Human Security PROGRAM

Dept. of Foreign Affairs  
Min. des Affaires étrangères

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## Identifying HUMAN INSECURITY

Civilians are the most vulnerable to the ravages of conflict. In our increasingly interconnected world, the insecurity of others – sooner or later – becomes a matter of our own insecurity. Protecting people in our global community, and building a sustainable foundation for peace, is a clear and pressing priority. For Canada, human security is an approach to foreign policy that puts people – their rights, their safety and their lives-first. Our objective is to build a world where universal humanitarian standards and the rule of law protect all people; where those who violate these standards are held accountable; and where our international institutions are equipped to defend and enforce those standards.

*In short, a world where people can live in freedom from fear.*

## Taking CONCRETE ACTION

The Human Security Program of the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade (DFAIT) is one of Canada's proactive mechanisms for addressing the human dimensions of globalisation. The Program invests strategically in initiatives that strengthen the ability of the global community to respond to threats to Human Security and support peaceful governance. Since its inception in June 2000, the Human Security Program has supported over 150 projects on 5 different continents. The focus and scope of such projects range from capitalizing on the power of the Internet to help street kids in South America, to coordinating regional strategies to combat the illicit trade in small arms in South Asia, to supporting the establishment of a Middle East Regional Human Security Centre in Jordan. The Human Security Program also offers a number of fellowships to encourage greater public dialogue about human security among academics and established practitioners outside of government as well as with government departments. Effective peacebuilding involves close collaboration with the Canadian International Development Agency's Peacebuilding Fund and requires international co-ordination among various types of actors, including international and regional organizations. Multilateral and bilateral partnerships are therefore also an important aspect of Canada's approach to human security. Canada is taking a leadership role in advancing human security in the UN, G8, and Organization of American States. Canada also cooperates closely with its partners in the Human Security Network, a group of over a dozen countries – representing different regions of the world – seeking to identify concrete areas for collective action against threats to human security.



Canada has identified five foreign policy priorities for advancing human security.

- ▼ Protection of Civilians
- ▼ Peace Support Operations
- ▼ Conflict Prevention
- ▼ Governance and Accountability
- ▼ Public Safety

## Fostering FUTURE SECURITY

Through both its Human Security Program as well its multilateral and bilateral partnerships, Canada will continue to work to strengthen the international community's ability to respond to threats to human security and support peaceful governance. We invite you to explore our website further to learn more about Canada's approach to human security and the various Program initiatives we undertake to help build a world where people can live in freedom from fear.

► [www.humansecurity.gc.ca](http://www.humansecurity.gc.ca)



Department of Foreign Affairs  
and International Trade

Ministère des Affaires étrangères  
et du Commerce international

Canada

CANADA'S  
Human Security  
PROGRAM