

### PANEL THREE: CURRENT PEACE OPERATIONS CHALLENGES

Both the moderator and the lead presenter were Canadians, respectively MGen Michel Maisonneuve (Canadian Forces) and Prof. Joel Sokolsky (Royal Military College). Gen. Maisonneuve provided context for the discussion by drawing attention to how much the nature of peace operations had been changing even before 11 September 2001. Specifically, he suggested that peace operations had evolved through three stages: 1) the so-called "golden age" of classical peacekeeping of the pre-1989 period, 2) the "New World Order" burst of enthusiasm of the years 1989 to 1993; and 3) the profoundly more complex "gray zone" peace operations since 1993.

Prof. Sokolsky began by stressing that, in parallel with the evolution in peace operations, Canadian defence policy was becoming more closely integrated with American policy than ever before. This was not something caused by 11 September, but the attacks of that day would accelerate the trend. Yet this did not mean Canada would be focused militarily on North America. To the contrary, "if there is anything big going on in the world, we expect to participate in it." Canada had some 4,500 military personnel deployed in overseas operations, with the bulk of the latter being led by the US.

A second important aspect of Canadian defence policy concerned Europe. As did Washington, Ottawa too saw value in enlarging the alliance, and working with new Allies as well as PFP members in a "trans-European bargain" intended to promote and consolidate democracy in the CEE. Despite those who thought that Canada somehow "quit" Europe as a result of the 1992 decision to end the stationed force presence in Germany, the reality was that by the end of the 1990s there were almost as many Canadian military personnel in Europe (in ex-Yugoslavia) as there had been in Germany at the start of the 1990s.

What was new was the emphasis now being given in Washington to "homeland security." This, said Prof. Sokolsky, had led decisionmakers in Ottawa to seek to strengthen bilateral ties with the US, inter alia so as to reassure Americans that Canada would not become a "security liability" to them. In this regard, it bore noting that the most recent Quadrennial Defense Review in the US had identified the defence of the homeland as the country's top security priority. The new agenda suggested both sovereignty and budgetary implications for Canada, and with respect to the latter it was clear, from the most recent federal budget (of December 2001), that while more money would be allocated to security measures, it did not follow there would be major increases in the budget of the Department of National Defence.