

Canada's commitment to Europe is both pragmatic and profound. We are tied to Europe in spirit, and in substance. NATO, the CSCE and the European Community form three essential pillars of our vision of the new Europe. Each of these institutions has its mandate, its membership and its purpose. They can be and must be complementary and not competitive. They must work together towards a new common ground of co-operative security, a security based on a web of economic, political and security relationships which are designed to re-assure and to re-inforce.

The CSCE Summit later this year will provide an opportunity to build upon the shared ideals, values, interests and aspirations of the new Europe. Canada will offer its strong support in contributing to the important work to be done by the Preparatory Committee established and agreed to by CSCE Foreign Ministers yesterday.

The flexibility, breadth and balance inherent in the CSCE must be preserved and built upon. The goal must be to institutionalize, regularize and politicize the CSCE process. In so doing we must avoid excessive bureaucracy and redundant organizations. The CSCE must remain lean, responsive to the changing needs of its membership.

Activities in all three baskets of the CSCE should be intensified and the balance between those baskets should be maintained. This requires urgent action and new departures by all CSCE members. To this end, Canada is putting forward the following initiatives:

- annual meetings of CSCE Foreign Ministers and biennial meetings of Heads of Government, leading to a Council for European Co-operation;
- continuation of the conventional force and confidence-building negotiations beyond their current phases, involving all 35 members;
- specific mechanisms and institutions for crisis prevention and conflict resolution;
- a CSCE Verification Agency to co-ordinate and facilitate verification and confidence-building activities;
- ongoing fora for dialogue on economic and environmental matters;
- a CSCE Assembly where parliamentary delegations could meet regularly to discuss issues of common concern; and
- expansion of the principles and undertakings in the human dimension.