

- induced a tighter and more immediate pattern of interactions between internal and external decision-making processes; international obligations have to be taken into account as domestic policies are developed;
- produced a set of broadly shared standards and values while drawing a sharp line between the growing number of countries which profess to share common values and those few which adhere to exclusionist, traditional notions;
- created a need for closer harmonization of policies and concerted actions between international actors;
- given rise to a greater awareness on the part of publics in many countries of violations of human rights and double standards in international practices;
- inclined several states towards advocacy of enhanced international organizations or international action in selected areas to secure a more "interventionist" global environment in defence of their own interests.

Countries have pursued, both consciously and subconsciously, more interventionist practices in the human rights, humanitarian assistance, environment and other areas, and these practices have in turn stretched the traditional boundaries of international law. In the area of trade policy, the GATT and concomitant contractual commitments and dispute-resolution provisions reflect an effective ceding of sovereignty to a multilateral organization. Regionally, the regulatory function of the European Commission and, to a lesser extent, the dispute-resolution mechanism of the Canada-USA Free Trade Agreement, provide mutually agreed rule-based interventions.

But practices advocated for one purpose become precedents for other occasions. Hence, the advocacy of a droit de regard by the United Nations on state human rights practices becomes interventionism vis-a-vis Canada in the 1991 Oka crisis stemming from conflicting land claims and armed resistance by Canadian aboriginal groups. Concern for the Brazilian rain-forest becomes, over time, scrutiny of Canadian forestry practices. Advocacy of the elimination of non-tariff barriers for European farmers is soon translated into principles with an impact on the future operations of Canadian provincial agricultural marketing board practices.

4. The Intrusive International Order

The international system has become inherently and irreversibly intrusive. We are not yet at the stage where all of Canadian policies and practices are subject to international rules or international scrutiny, but we are heading incrementally in that direction. A few examples: