

The CSCE could not intervene in Yugoslavia last May when I urged it to, because the then U.S.S.R., among others, would not let it interfere in the "internal affairs of a state," fearing, I suppose, interference in its own affairs. That was before the August 19 coup.

After the coup failed, at a CSCE conference held, ironically enough, in Moscow, the then foreign minister of the restored Gorbachev regime told the assembled CSCE ministers that, if ever again there was a conflict between the principle of non-intervention and the protection of human rights, the Soviet government would come down on the side of human rights.

What a transformation!

So a week ago, I urged the chairman of the CSCE -- the foreign minister of the Czech and Slovak Federal Republic -- to go beyond merely sending observers to the obvious agony in Nagorno-Karabakh and, instead, to intervene. This means calling together the Armenian and Azerbaijani foreign ministers in a CSCE peace process to halt the conflict and to begin to build a just and lasting peace with the inhabitants of Nagorno-Karabakh itself.

After all, these new republics have accepted the CSCE's principles. Let us now hold them to account. I am pleased that Mr. Dienstbier has indeed called such a meeting of CSCE foreign ministers in Helsinki this coming Tuesday.

The Need to Protect the Return to Democracy -- Haiti

In Haiti, Canada continues to support the return of constitutional democracy to that country. The agreement, worked out a couple of weeks ago by President Aristide and the elected parliamentarians under Organization of American States (OAS) auspices, and after a lot of difficulties, offers the best chance to achieve that result.

The implementation of that agreement depends to a large extent on the long-term support of Canada and the OAS, as well as other countries. We all need to assist Haiti in developing viable and long-lasting democratic traditions and institutions.

It is the intention of the Canadian government to continue supporting President Aristide and the constitutional process in Haiti, and to encourage the OAS commitment to this little country overwhelmed by poverty and a tragic destiny.

The Need to Establish the Rule of Law -- Somalia

In Somalia, a despotic government fell, but there is no rule of law, only chaos and killing. Even humanitarian assistance has