

The CSCE has evolved as its membership has changed and grown. Canada has been instrumental in developing the CSCE's conflict management abilities -- from ad hoc fact-finding missions and good offices to CSCE peacekeeping with a link to NATO, the WEU and the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS).

The CSCE does not get much publicity. Few people know that CSCE missions have visited every new state in Europe and produced comprehensive reports on the process of democratization, with special attention to human rights issues.

Through the CSCE, Canada has sent representatives to Ukraine, Belarus and Moldova to look at human rights; we sent two Canadians on the recent CSCE mission to look at detention camps in Bosnia; and we headed a mission to Kosovo to see what further conflict prevention efforts could be made in that tense region of the former Yugoslavia.

As a result of that effort, longer-term missions were recently dispatched to three potential regions of conflict -- Vojvodina, Sandjak and Kosovo. A Canadian diplomat is on the ground in Kosovo and will remain there for at least three months as part of a CSCE team attempting to ensure that conflict does not spill over into the volatile Kosovo region. Similarly, we have just dispatched another Canadian officer to Skopje in the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia. Canada will also participate in sanctions monitoring missions in Romania.

This involvement with the CSCE is not new for Canada. It was Canada that brought the conflict in Nagorno-Karabakh to the attention of the CSCE. We provided a military expert and an aircraft to a CSCE fact-finding mission to the region. We urged the CSCE to establish a peace process, which is now under way.

The CSCE has not yet achieved its full potential, but it has the capacity to deal with real problems in Europe today -- many of which find their origin in minority issues. The tools now exist within the CSCE. What we must now focus on is developing the political commitment and the will to use these tools.

The CSCE, NATO, the EC and the WEU all have a role to play in European security. The relationships between these organizations, like much in Europe, are in transition. But the important thing is that they move forward together to enhance regional stability.

### Continental Security

But Europe is not the only focus for co-operative security initiatives. The changing global security environment is having a profound effect on all of Canada's multilateral and bilateral