

Most Canadians probably find it appropriate that this country continue to deploy a modest direct contribution to European defence. A more unconventional and controversial possibility is that Canada could now make a special contribution to a more balanced partnership by inviting assistance from its European allies in meeting some continuing defence needs in Canada, assuming that these are not quickly eased by arms control agreements. Examples include Canadian concerns in relation to aerospace surveillance and the maintenance of sovereign control in Canada's Arctic territories and waters.

There is a limit to which the Alliance can and should try to play the role of the "good cop". In fact there is much room now for a "good cop" and we have invented one, in the form of the CSCE. It should be developed as far and as fast as possible in the fields of the peaceful settlement of disputes, conflict prevention, the vigorous promotion of human rights, democratic practice, and minority protection.

If CSCE member-states, or some other group of states in Europe, want to get into the peacekeeping business, they have a great deal to learn about the realities of the field. The peacekeeper's role is a neutral, narrow and limited role, taken on with the consent of the parties after hostilities have ceased. The possibility of humanitarian and other forms of intervention, without the consent of the parties, is a totally different and much more dangerous challenge — dangerous in many senses. If the legitimacy of this kind of intervention is to be pioneered in Europe, it will have to be done with clear and unmistakable support from the whole community of states. Otherwise, what is seen as a noble innovation could turn into a repetition of the escalations of history.

Canadian Defence Policy

Ottawa took a welcome step forward in September 1991 when the Minister of National Defence made a long awaited defence policy statement to provide a response to the transformed world of 1991, so radically changed from the time of the Government's appraisal in its last Defence White Paper in 1987. The 1991 paper may signal the intention to use more regular and frequent statements as the primary vehicle for articulating and up-dating defence policy, in place of the ten or fifteen year White Paper reviews which in the past have been so difficult to complete, and to adjust to rapidly changing realities.