

to which domestic policy is now foreign policy and vice versa. At the same time the Prime Minister is underscoring one of the most persuasive arguments for a robust federation.

Is the picture I have just painted too optimistic? Perhaps. But then I have reason to be optimistic. There were times when I felt myself to be among a small, even shrinking, band of idealists. I believed then, as I do now, that free trade was not just a practical necessity but a guiding ideal. Only if trade among nations is free will we maintain the foundations of political and other freedoms. I believed then, as I do now, that the free exchange of ideas and capital, the open exchange of goods and services, and the security of agreed rules and common institutions is the basis of civilized intercourse between nations. In short, I was then and I am now a liberal as first defined by Adam Smith and David Ricardo, and as exemplified by Canadian Liberals from Sir Alexander MacKenzie to Lester Pearson and Jean Chrétien. And yet even I am amazed by the speed with which the ideal of free trade is being transformed into a global reality. If nothing else, I now fully expect to be amazed in the years ahead.

Thank you.