

Romania wants selective co-operation in Comecon

Executive Committee, introduced in 1965, was another of Ceausescu's innovations. Thus the President, who is also the Secretary-General of the Party, increased his personal power, while Premier Ion Gheorge Maurer retired for health reasons and was replaced by Manea Manescu.

Finally, it is disagreement that characterizes relations between Romania and the U.S.S.R. Romania would like to see more consultation within the Warsaw Pact, but at the same time favours selective co-operation in Comecon. It has already expressed its reservations on the European Communist Conference and refused to sign the bilateral co-operation agreements on ideology and propaganda with the other Eastern European states. Furthermore, the Romanian delegations to Vienna and Helsinki did not share the views of the U.S.S.R. on European security and co-operation or on disarmament.

"Plus ça change, plus c'est la même chose" seems to be an apt comment on

Eastern European politics. More than before, the Soviet Union is trying to strengthen the ties between the Eastern European countries during this period of *détente* with the West and Sino-Soviet conflict. In keeping with a tradition which has existed since the end of the 19th century, Hungary and Romania have struck their individual paths, and the other Eastern European countries are following their actions with interest. Barring sudden outbreaks of conflict, serious problems are arising in Eastern Europe and threaten to destroy the economic stability, the elements of which will come from these two countries. In the past failures, these socialist countries which are becoming increasingly modernized, now have options that may be consistent with their needs than the model imposed upon them from the West. What they do in the future will depend only on their governments but also on circumstances and how they use them.

Canada and Poland

Unique chance for co-operation in second century of relations

By Adam Bromke

Canada and Poland are separated by the facts of geography and history. Their present political and economic systems are different and they participate in different alliances. And yet the ties between the two nations have at times been very close and in the past few years, in the climate of international *détente*, have once again been

strengthened. Indeed, in some respects a unique relation has already developed between them.

One of the reasons for the close ties between the two countries has been the presence of a Polish community in Canada for more than a century. Sir Kazimierz Gzowski, who left Poland after participation in the abortive insurrection against Russia in 1830, constructed the International Bridge at Niagara Falls and became the Administrator of Ontario. The Globensky family played a prominent role in Quebec as early as the first part of the nineteenth century. The first Polish settlement in the Madawaska Valley, centred on Wilno, goes back to 1844.

Polish emigration to Canada continued in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries and persisted after Poland regained its independence in the inter-war period. After the Second World War, many Polish political refugees found haven in Canada. At present



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