

seen as particularly meaningful because they are not understood as a place for politics. Whatever the toll globalization may be imposing on Canadian citizens, resignation and disaffection is the answer. This is particularly unsurprising given the 'flattening out' of political debate on the economy, including trade policy -- all political parties have come to resemble each other, thus making the construction of the (non) choices quite clear.

This does not mean that the limited 'technical' role of the state in responding to the exigencies of globalization is wholly unquestioned. The number of non-governmental organizations assembled -- and protesting -- during the parallel APEC People's Summit in Vancouver in November 1997 was large by any measure. Posters dotting Union halls and University campuses protesting the Multilateral Agreement on Investment (MAI) are similarly indicative of the fact that the terrain on which the discourse surrounding globalization is articulated is not completely closed. Again, though, what is instructive here is the inability of political debate to take place; anecdotally evidenced in the Prime Minister's unfortunate jokes about the use of pepper spray against protesters on the one hand, and Sergio Marchi's apparently complete confusion over disagreements about the MAI on the other.⁴²

In terms of Canadian foreign policy, however, what is clear is that for most analysts, and in most analyses, globalization has become an apolitical backdrop, a conditioning variable, a 'given'. This is, of course, consistent with the discourse surrounding globalization. In placing globalization as part of the world 'out there', rather than as a discourse which defines the very meaning of what is a legitimate subject for politics and therefore of foreign policy itself, these analyses are limited to the positing of globalization as some kind of *deus ex machina*, imposing limits but not of our own making, or to the observation that despite change, nothing much has changed (because globalization is not seen within the terrain of the political). What is not perceived is the displacement of the political -- to other areas, off to the side -- and the