



Developing Foreign Policy:

Canadians Speak

There should be more non-military peacekeepers, plus youth interns at the United Nations in New York. These were among the recommendations from Canadians at the 1999 National Forum on Canada's Foreign Policy, on the theme of human security and the Security Council.

Canadians also called for careful measurement of the impact of sanctions on children, women, the natural environment and culture; more Security Council attention to human security issues, such as international crime; and a bigger role for NGOs in Security Council affairs.

Meetings were held in Saint John, Montréal and Vancouver. Local organizers invited a broad range of participants, including academics, business, labour, community leaders and youth.

At all three meetings speakers expressed the wish to know more about Security Council affairs and to create UN education and opportunities for youth.

Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy told the Montréal meeting of the National Forum that human security is the central objective for Canada's two-year term on the Security Council (see excerpts from the speech on p. 13). In Vancouver,

Diane Marleau, Minister for International Co-operation and Minister Responsible for La Francophonie, outlined the Canadian International Development Agency's broad approach to strengthening human security around the world. Secretary of State (Asia-Pacific) Raymond Chan welcomed participants with the reminder that foreign policy is now too important to be left only in the hands of diplomats, politicians and academics, and he invited citizens and civil society organizations to play a larger role.



Look Ahead

The Canadian Centre for Foreign Policy Development will hold its first annual Graduate Student Policy Seminar, entitled "Canada in the World," from May 3 to 9, 1999. Fifteen participants will be selected from graduate students in political science, history, public administration, law, economics and international relations, to present their graduate research on any aspect of Canadian international relations. In addition to student presentations, the seminar will include meetings with government officials and policy makers. It will provide an opportunity for graduate students to exchange ideas with students from other universities and to obtain feedback on their research interests. For further information, contact Natalie Mychajlyszyn at (613) 520-2600.

Another new event, the first annual Academic Roundtable, will mark the end of the Graduate Student Seminar. Leading international relations and foreign policy academics are being invited to an all-day meeting on May 7, 1999, to discuss issues and trends in Canadian foreign policy. ●—

We are continuing to design tools and opportunities for public input and for informing Canadians about policy developments. Starting this spring, the Canadian Centre for Foreign Policy Development will prepare an annual Canadian Foreign Policy Development report, outlining recent foreign policy developments, especially as follow-up to policy projects, roundtables, National Forum meetings and other activities.

Canadian Centre
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For a complete report on the meetings of the National Forum, visit our Web site:
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