

financial assistance to the Atlantic Council of Canada will be used to develop new ways for Canada and the Alliance to co-operate with Central and Eastern European countries.

"Canada is proud to contribute to these latest initiatives," said Mr. Clark. "They are a concrete expression of Article 2 of the NATO Charter -- historically known as the 'Canadian Article' -- which encourages non-military co-operation in the Alliance. NATO's reaching out to the countries of Eastern and Central Europe during this difficult period remains of critical importance in encouraging them to pursue their own democratic development."

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