

elections, but political parties other than the Albanian Workers' Party (Communist) are still not authorized.

Despite these few improvements, the human rights situation in Albania remains precarious. Unofficially, most of the member countries of the CSCE recognized this by denying Albania membership in their group. There is no indication thus far that the criminal code has really been depoliticized, that the judicial system has been freed of political interference, that contacts with foreigners are permitted (rather than being reported to the authorities), that independent media can be established, that art censorship has been eliminated, that individuals can demonstrate in any way their opposition to the government, that all ethnic minorities enjoy the same rights or that workers can organize in unions of their choice.

CANADA'S POSITION

Canada acknowledges that Albania has made some progress in recent months with respect to human rights, particularly as regards religious practice and the right to a passport. We believe, however, that, in terms of the set of standards established by the member countries of the CSCE concerning human rights, Albania has not yet shown a real desire to guarantee what nearly all European countries now offer their people. The Government of Canada encourages the Albanian government to go forward in this direction.

90/12/03