

1. INTRODUCTION

The Canadian Council on International Law is the largest non-governmental organization in Canada devoted solely to the discussion, dissemination and development of international law. Each year it holds an Annual Conference in Ottawa which is attended by over 250 professors of international law, private practitioners, government lawyers, academics, diplomats, students and policy developers.

The Conference theme is usually broad but permits exploration of specific areas of interest, such as international human rights law, international trade law and international criminal law.

The theme of the 2000 Annual Conference was, 'Looking Ahead: International Law in the 21st Century'. This theme supported the exploration of what direction leading academics and practitioners anticipated international law would take in the next 10 to 20 years. Individual panels discussed areas ranging from the impact of technology on national borders through the changing interface between international politics and international law to the response of states to human migratory pressures.

The Canadian Council on International Law's mandate to encourage discussion, dissemination and development of international law makes its annual conference a natural, non-partisan forum for the exploration of issues of interest to institutions such as the Canadian Centre for Foreign Policy Development. The active participation of student members at the annual conference facilitates a forward looking, cutting edge approach to many issues, while academic participation promotes intellectual rigour and practitioners demand useful and pertinent practices. The combination of these interests ensures that all aspects of an issue must be fully examined to satisfy a knowledgeable, diverse and committed audience.

This policy options paper is designed to summarize various presentations and panels from the perspective of policy options which the Canadian Centre for Foreign Policy Development may wish to explore. Each panel or presentation summary concludes with a paragraph on policy options where the rapporteur briefly highlights issues which in her or his opinion the speakers have raised, directly or inferentially, as areas of potential interest for policy development. As such the policy options do not reflect the views of the Canadian Council on International Law nor any one individual.

This policy options paper has been prepared by three members of the Canadian Council on International Law, Kim Carter, Yasir Naqvi and Kate Wood. Kim Carter is the President of the Canadian Council on International Law, Yasir Naqvi, who articulated with Flavell Kubrick and Katherine Wood, who articulated with the Department of Justice, are both completing their Bar Admission Course in Ottawa, Ontario (further biographical information can be found at Appendix III).