

The lessons to be learned from these common efforts are clear: our collective security is based on our transatlantic bonds. This security must be the fruit of co-operation that includes the economic, social, political and military dimensions of our relations. It is in this spirit that we welcome today this new initiative of the European Union, and we will be pleased to work with all our partners in the CSCE to make it a complete success.

Canada's security and foreign policy are linked to European security and stability. Our common security is based on the values that we share: democracy and respect for human rights and minorities.

France deserves special recognition for inspiring this initiative. Paris, which was liberated half a century ago following the deadliest conflict in our history, is an ideal place to reflect on the issues of the future.