

Western countries reveal that a debate is underway to find the correct course leading to collective security at lower nuclear levels. In the Swedish-Mexican proposal, two NATO countries Denmark and Greece, and Australia voted yes; four NATO countries, Iceland, the Netherlands, Norway and Spain were among the seven abstentions.

It should be noted however, that the majority of NATO countries and all Canada's major economic summit partners voted against the Freeze resolution. Canada will continue to think about this issue and it will obviously be considered within the context of the upcoming foreign policy review.

2. Prevention of Nuclear War: Preventing nuclear war would seem an objective universally shared, and on which it would be easy to reach consensus in the United Nations. This did not prove to be so. The reasons are varied and serve as an object lesson on what is -- and is not -- possible at the United Nations. A draft resolution cosponsored by Canada and our European Allies sought to put prevention of nuclear war within the context of preventing all wars, and within the framework of the United Nations Charter. Some of the more radical Non-aligned states sought to turn the issue of preventing nuclear war into a critique of Western security policies and alliance relationships and, regrettably, efforts to reach a consensus had to be abandoned. A substantive and balanced discussion of an issue of central concern to the international community was thus put aside as the result of ideological conflict (as well as posturing) at the U.N.