

It is for this reason that Canada has strongly supported expanding the field of activity of NATO, that is pursuing more energetically the Alliance's mandate for political and social dialogue. In this connection, during NATO's most recent Summit, a Canadian proposal was adopted to assist young political leaders in learning how to make democracy work. More initiatives of this type are required.

The progress in East-West relations owes much to the refreshing breezes of change sweeping Eastern Europe and the USSR. Ideology is giving way to compromise. Governments are recognizing that the old ways do not work; that new strategies are required; that lessons may be learned abroad; and the co-operation in the economic and social spheres does not constitute an acknowledgement of defeat but is rather a recipe for success.

Canada's support for the changes now underway in the East is unequivocal. There must be no turning-back and that requires imagination in the West as to strengthen this remarkable process of reform and liberalization.

- In the Eastern bloc and elsewhere around the world, the turning towards democracy and the expansion of the market place is a welcome victory for pragmatism and realism.

Totalitarianism is fading not because it is regarded by its subjects as wrong; it is being discredited because it doesn't work. It doesn't deliver.

Democracy is not only a set of values; it is also a statement that there is no monopoly on truth, that different groups at different times may have different solutions to different problems. It is the politics of pragmatism. It works. It delivers.

A free market is not simply a particular means of ordering the economy. It is a framework which enables the individual to act on his or her own merits, efforts and capacities. It conforms to human nature. It is the economics of pragmatism. It works. It delivers.

It is for this reason that Canada welcomes the tide of democratization and the shift to the market place evident around the globe. On this trend rests the hope for social stability. And such stability is a firm foundation for international peace.

The past months have seen remarkable progress in many regional conflicts which have posed serious threats to global stability and caused untold sorrow for their victims.