

ments can ever build. When people are barred from travelling, from visiting with families, from having ordinary contacts, from worshipping freely, from speaking a language or practising a culture, their frustrations breed fear, resentment and instability. When arbitrarily imposed and artificial barriers are removed and people, ideas, and information can move without restraint, when freedom becomes a reality, then there will be no limit to the possibilities that will open before us.

Some participating States have learned that lesson in the past two years. But we must also remind ourselves where these changes have fallen short of expectations and commitments and of what remains to be done. Candour and openness have done much to achieve the success we now enjoy. This is not the moment to abandon them.

Not all participating States have made the same progress. Even in those participating States where reforms are being implemented, there remain pockets of resistance and all-too-frequent lapses into old ways. In some participating countries, minorities and religious believers continue to be harassed and persecuted, and attempts are made to deny them their rights, indeed their very existence, and to eradicate their cultural and religious identities. The human anguish caused by the forced separation of families due to the harsh restrictions on emigration continues in some countries.

In some countries, individuals are still being punished for exercising their right to know and act upon their rights, for criticizing their governments, and for

Frustrations breed fear, resentment and instability

conducting allegedly subversive activity. Indeed, one participating State has, at the very moment of the adoption of this forward-looking Concluding Document, trampled, in Prague, on both its old and its new commitments by taking violent action against groups engaged in the peaceful exercise of their human rights

under the Helsinki Final Act and the Vienna Concluding Document.

Another participating State has, in the face of CSCE tradition and procedures, declared that, notwithstanding its action in giving consensus to the whole Concluding Document, it assumed no commitment to implement those provisions which it considered to be 'inadequate.' By taking this approach, the Government of Romania seems to be attempting to treat the Vienna Concluding Document as a menu from which it would choose those items it would abide by and those it would ignore. This is clearly an untenable interpretation. Our CSCE commitments, arrived at by consensus, are indivisible. My Government, therefore, considers that all participating states must comply with all aspects of this Document, to which we have all given consensus.

The Governments of these participating States must in coming years decide whether they want to move forward in renewal and reform, or cling to policies and methods that are not only distasteful, but now demonstrably outmoded and counterproductive. Canada will continue to encourage change, to criticize shortcomings, to urge the breaking down of barriers. We have no desire to impose our system or beliefs on anyone, but we are convinced that Europe can be a stable and secure place only when all its people can enjoy freedom and personal dignity, and feel safe from the arbitrary exercise against them of the force of the state.

Before closing, I should like to pay special tribute to the Government of Austria for its exemplary hospitality, the standard of openness set at Vienna, and its determination to encourage progress at key moments during the Vienna Meeting. I join as well with my colleagues in expressing our heartfelt thanks for the tireless efforts of the Executive Secretary, Dr. Liedermann, and his efficient and courteous staff. Finally, I wish to acknowledge the crucial role of our colleagues from the Neutral and Non-Aligned participating states, who provided competent and dedicated co-ordinators, and undertook the difficult and delicate task of

embodying our deliberations in draft Concluding Documents.

Mr. Chairman, the Vienna Follow-up Meeting has given us a new framework, new mechanisms, and new avenues for the building of security and cooperation in Europe on a broad front. It has launched a balanced, varied and useful program of follow-up activity with innovative meetings such as the London Information Forum and the Kraków Cultural Symposium. It has provided us with more accurate yardsticks by which we can measure compliance with CSCE commitments and encourage further change. The opportunities and challenges are indeed momentous. As an active and dedicated member of the CSCE community, Canada will be there to meet them." □

The following are some highlights of the Vienna Concluding Document:

— In military security, two distinct negotiations are being launched:

— a negotiation based on the achievements of the Stockholm Conference in developing confidence- and security-building measures to reduce the risk of military confrontation in Europe;

— within the same CSCE framework, an autonomous negotiation among the 23 members of NATO and the Warsaw Pact will seek to eliminate any capability for large-scale aggression and achieve a balance of conventional armed forces at lower levels.

— In human rights and humanitarian cooperation, governments agree to:

— respect the right of citizens to participate actively in the promotion of human rights; ensure that those exercising rights are not discriminated against; ensure that the remedies are available, including appeal to governmental or judicial organs, and the right to a fair hearing; recognize the role of NGOs and individuals in promoting human rights and allow them information, contacts, and free expression.

— ensure freedom of religion and prevent discrimination against religious communities and individuals; recognize