

While Canada and other democracies aspire to a world in which there is adherence to international law, where conflicts are settled through agreement, and where all governments respect the dignity of their citizens, the world in which we live is far removed from this ideal. In spite of over forty years of effort to build an international consensus which would transcend the enmities between East and West and North and South, our world remains deeply divided. The world is fundamentally divided between the few nations in which the leaders govern with the consent of their peoples, and the many nations where the leaders maintain their rule by force. That this division will endure is one of the few predictions which we can make with certainty. The democracies will continue to be a minority in a dangerous world made up of regimes opposed to our way of life.

All regimes which are governed by force do not pose an equal threat to Canada and to other democracies. By far the greatest danger which Canada faces comes from the Soviet Union. The combination of Soviet military strength and antipathy to our way of life are what makes the challenge so formidable. While the Green Paper does take note of this, it also implies that the conflict between East and West has an important basis in mutual suspicions and misunderstandings. It is extremely important to recognize that while misunderstandings can exacerbate the antagonism between the Soviets and ourselves, they are not the cause of the conflict. The competition between East and West is