

Legislation to prosecute crimes such as sex exploitation of children and child sex tourism also exists in Canada. However there has not been one case prosecuted yet because procedures are too complicated. We need to relinquish some of our rights to help catch criminals.

Some participants cautioned that the Cybercrime Treaty could actually interfere with the Canadian Charter. The charter sets higher standards than the Treaty. In this way, treaties may be used to lower existing legal or even constitutional protections.

International cooperation for criminal activity could be hindered by legal systems of individual countries. For instance, during the consultation process leading to the creation of the Competition Act, it became clear that confidentiality arrangements in Canada do not necessarily exist in the countries with which Canada shares its information.

The Chair concluded the roundtable by thanking all the participants. He summarised key points of the discussion and emphasised the importance of the discussion around citizens vs consumers - or the transition from citizen to consumer. He suggested that this analysis and perspective might be especially useful to explore in the context of the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) and other trade agreement generated policy developments. He also drew attention to the changing nature of sovereignty over time. Initially, sovereignty was vested in God. Later on it shifted to the Church, the Absolute Monarch, and the elites. Today, sovereignty is vested in the nation state and in some cases "the people." Just as before, the concept may well prove transitory, Steven Lee said. He closed the session by encouraging further cooperation among the participants.