

Canada — this apparently means that they should occur in the country's geographical confines. There is no way to determine within the *CSIS Act* what is meant by “relating to Canada”. It would appear that this phrase could capture any foreign-influenced activity, no matter how tenuous its connection with Canada. The connection becomes even more tenuous if the activity does not have to be within the geographical confines of the country. To narrow this part of the definition, and hence CSIS's mandate in this area, it is necessary to add criteria or some qualification to the phrase “relating to Canada”. SIRC recommended in its submission to the Committee that the word “directly” be added to modify the phrase “relating to Canada”. The Committee agrees. Such an amendment would have the effect of narrowing this part of the definition and putting in place a criterion for measuring the relation to Canada of the activities under consideration.

RECOMMENDATION 7

The Committee recommends that paragraph (b) of the definition of threats to the security of Canada contained in section 2 of the *CSIS Act* be amended by inserting the word “directly” before the phrase “relating to Canada”.

The third element of this part of the definition requires that the foreign-influenced activities in question be “detrimental to the interests of Canada”. This issue was addressed by the Committee in its discussion of paragraph (a) of the definition of threats to the security of Canada.

The fourth element of this part of the definition requires that the activity be clandestine, deceptive or involve a threat to any person. The Committee is unable to improve upon the wording of the first two alternatives, despite recommendations by the Canadian Bar Association and SIRC. It does, however, believe that the third alternative, “involve a threat to any person”, needs amendment. There are no limiting criteria in the *CSIS Act* by which it is possible to judge the nature or the intensity of the threat in question. The Committee believes that this overly broad element requires some qualification. Both the Canadian Bar Association and SIRC recommend that “threat to any person” be qualified by the word “serious”. The Committee agrees with this recommendation. It would require a demonstration that a threat be more than minimal or incidental before a foreign-influenced activity fell within this part of the definition of threats to the security of Canada.

RECOMMENDATION 8

The Committee recommends that paragraph (b) of the definition of threats to the security of Canada contained in section 2 of the *CSIS Act* be amended by inserting the word “serious” before the phrase “threat to any person”.