

Of course there are many important issues that we would like to settle with members of the Warsaw Pact and, particularly, with the Soviet Union. These include fundamental human issues such as the rights of Jews and dissidents to emigrate, the promotion of sporting and cultural ties and the negotiation of economic agreements. However, important as these issues are, they must not be allowed to undermine our main objective: an early completion of arms control negotiations. Any departure from that principle, any attempt to impose our values on the other super-power or to settle other scores can only heighten their belief that we are not serious about peace.

There should be no debate about the paramount importance of bringing under control a threat to the human race.

There should be no question that such control requires communication and understanding between those who can exercise the threat.

Arms control is demonstrably a matter of mutual interest, and the contribution it makes to stability and survival should outweigh all other considerations.

I am not asking the super-powers to love each other or even to trust each other. Just to talk to each other because they each have an equal interest in preventing the calamity that unfortunately has ceased to be unthinkable.