

- International institutions which had been the focus and instrument of much of Canada's policy were troubled by internal divergences and by criticism about their continuing relevance in new world situations.
- The world powers could no longer be grouped in clearly identifiable ideological camps, groupings which had conditioned political and military thinking since the War.
- Long-standing human problems in the Third World—which in the post-war euphoria seemed manageable in due course—had crystallized into irresistible demands and expectations for international action to deal with development needs and to put an end to race discrimination.
- Science and technology had produced in spectacular array powerful weapons, computerized industry, instant communications, space travel; but in sum these marvellous innovations raced far ahead of political, economic and social institutions, magnifying the problems they faced and rendering them inadequate in some cases.
- Social attitudes had changed. Civil disobedience and the use of violence became the commonplace of the new confrontation politics. The basic values of most societies were called into question—perhaps nowhere more harshly than in North America.

Canada's Changing Outlook

By the mid-sixties Canada had its own set of difficulties. An overheated economy, regional differences and disparities, the reverberations of the quiet revolution in Quebec, all added to the stress and strain on Canada's national fibre. They affected the way Canadians saw themselves and the world around them.

Developments in the outside world—the changes already noted—raised questions and doubts in the minds of some Canadians about Canada's foreign policy. Criticism tended to gather in a hard lump of frustration—accentuated by the war in Vietnam—about having to live in the shadow of the United States and its foreign policy, about the heavy dependence of Canada's economy on continuing American prosperity, and about the marked influence of that large and dynamic society on Canadian life in general.

Canada's "traditional" middle-power role in the world seemed doomed to disappear after the United Nations ordeal in the Congo, in the face of