

INTRODUCTION

The Guide is designed as a reference to current Canadian policies in the field of international peace and security. It is divided into four sections: *ARMS CONTROL AND DISARMAMENT*, *DEFENCE*, *CONFLICT RESOLUTION*, and *INSTITUTIONS*. Within these sections, individual entries are organized under the headings *BACKGROUND*, *CURRENT CANADIAN POLICY*, and *PARLIAMENTARY COMMENT*. A final section, *FACTS AND FIGURES*, provides basic data related to Canadian policy.

The *BACKGROUND* section provides the international context for Canadian policy, and may also incorporate Canadian policy prior to the year under review where this is appropriate. *CURRENT CANADIAN POSITION* is based on statements by Ministers and responsible officials. *PARLIAMENTARY COMMENT* is intended primarily to reflect the responses of the opposition parties, and, for the most part, draws upon statements by designated party spokespersons. At the end of each entry, a selected list of current references and background readings is provided. This list is not comprehensive: in conjunction with the footnoted references to Canadian policy statements and documents, it is intended to guide the interested reader to further sources of information.

Some of the individual entries necessarily overlap. For this reason, and in order to avoid duplication, the *CROSS REFERENCES* at the end of each section may provide important additional information on the entry in question. In particular, readers may wish to be aware that, in addition to the data on peacekeeping in *FACTS AND FIGURES*, Canadian policies on peacekeeping operations are described in the individual entries of the *CONFLICT RESOLUTION* section. The lengthy entry on the Gulf War is also complemented by the entry on Israel and the Occupied Territories.

The 1991 *Guide* covers the period from the beginning of August 1990 to the middle of August 1991. It begins, therefore, with the international crisis triggered by the invasion of Kuwait, and ends before the tumultuous events caused by the aborted coup in the Soviet Union seemed set to dominate the international agenda of the coming year.

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