

foreign policy is about. That order and that policy are not optional for a nation like Canada.

Other countries have been less dependent on international order. They have been able to impose order on others or they have been able to isolate themselves. But those have not been choices for Canada. Our land mass has always been too vast, and our population too small, to defend ourselves by ourselves. So we have sought to co-operate with others, through alliances, to defend Canada. And we have sought to build an international system where threats to Canada do not arise.

Similarly, we are a country of traders, dependent on trade for over 30 per cent of our GNP. We have always had to sell to others to prosper. And because of that we have sought open access and open markets, rules which are just and fair for all -- whether through the GATT negotiations, the Free Trade Agreement, the Cairns Group on Agriculture or the emerging Asia-Pacific Economic Co-operation.

Canada's dependence on that international order is not declining. It is increasing. The global village, like other villages, can be a place of co-operation or of conflict.

And never have the costs of conflict been so high or their sources so numerous. So, never has the need for co-operation been so great or the costs of failure so clear. Forty years ago, or four hundred years ago, nations could debate whether or not their country's interests could be preserved by acting as if the rest of the world did not exist. Not one has that luxury any more.

Consider some questions.

In a world of trade dominated by the European Community, the United States and Japan, how does Canada survive without rules of trade?

Who can envisage a cleaner global environment secured without nations acting together?

Who can resolve the international debt crisis without give-and-take between the developed and developing countries?