
Bearing these lessons in mind, we will make effective use of all of the influence that our economic, trading and development assistance relationships give us to promote respect for human rights.

An effective human rights policy requires us to make use of positive levers of influence as well as the various forms of sanctions at our disposal. With China, for example, we are developing systematic and wide-ranging contacts. Our goal is to open that country to the values Canadians espouse even as it opens up to the world economy.

In most cases, effectiveness will best be served through the exertion of our own influence together with that of others, through multilateral fora and through close coordination with other like-minded countries. For example, Canada helped to move the international community on the human rights situation in Rwanda in 1994 by calling a special meeting of the UN Commission on Human Rights.

We will also seek to enhance the role of the newly appointed UN High Commissioner for Human Rights. Our successful efforts to establish war crimes tribunals for Rwanda and the former Yugoslavia sought to ensure that justice is done. These tribunals are now getting under way. We will persevere with our objective of establishing a permanent criminal court for the prosecution of crimes against humanity and similar offenses, an objective we now believe to be within reach.

Democracy promotes stability and prosperity.

- Democratic tradition has been fundamental to Canadian values and underpins our prosperity. We believe that **participatory government** should be allowed to work for others as well. Firmly rooted, it will promote stability within and among countries. One of the ways we have supported democracy is by helping design, organize and monitor elections all over the globe through multilateral organizations such as the UN, the OAS, the Commonwealth and the Francophonie. The expertise of Elections Canada has been placed at the service of the international community and is now regarded as a unique asset around the world. Canadian election monitors are a familiar sight the world over, from South Africa to Cambodia, from Mozambique to El Salvador.

But the Government recognizes that elections alone are not sufficient for democracy to take root in a society. It is also vital to encourage the development of a democratic culture and civil society