

The second initiative was Canada's proposal to host a conference on economic reform in Ukraine. The Conference on Partnership for Economic Transformation in Ukraine, which will be held in Winnipeg on October 27, will bring together the world's leading economies and financial institutions to discuss Ukraine's plan for economic transformation, and international support to help reform and strengthen Ukraine's economy.

This concerted approach to Ukraine, adopted by the world's major industrial powers and international financial institutions, is due in large part to Canadian efforts in the months leading to last July's Summit.

Regional Security

Canada recognizes Ukraine's real security interests and has advocated co-operation among Ukraine, its neighbours and NATO to achieve security for all. Canada encouraged and supported Ukraine's membership in the Conference on Security and Co-operation in Europe (CSCE), the North Atlantic Co-operation Council and NATO's Partnership for Peace (PPF) program. Canada has offered Ukraine assistance in officer training to allow the Ukrainian military to reap the full benefits of PFP.

On February 4, 1994, Mr. Ouellet welcomed the unconditional ratification by the Ukrainian parliament of the Strategic Arms Reduction Talks (START) 1 Treaty and the Lisbon Protocol, which committed Ukraine to accede to the Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT) as a non-nuclear weapons state. Canada looks forward to the implementation of this commitment by Ukraine's new president and parliament.

As a non-nuclear weapons state, Canada is limited in the assistance it can provide for the dismantlement of missiles and warheads. However, Canada has offered its expertise to help Ukraine cope with the safety and environmental consequences of its Soviet nuclear inheritance.

Trade and Technical Assistance

Although still modest, Canada-Ukraine economic and trade relations offer potential for strong growth in the years ahead. Furthermore, Canada has developed a comprehensive technical assistance program for Ukraine. Separate documents outline the steps the two countries have taken to enhance their economic relations, and provide detailed information on Canada's assistance program to Ukraine.