



- the Canadian government should continue supporting Canadian and international NGOs and taking the lead in preparing for the elections. Large-scale economic reconstruction should be left to the bigger players. Canada should focus on efforts at confidence-building by collaborating in projects at the community level.

From the report from the October 8, 1996 roundtable. The report was presented to the Minister and Foreign Affairs officials in advance of the London post-Bosnia election meetings.

Canadian Policy Options for the Ukraine

The following policy recommendations were generated by a symposium undertaken by the Canadian Bureau for International Education in December 1996 which brought together Parliamentarians, government officials, academics, NGOs as well as Canadian and Ukrainian experts. The symposium addressed both foreign policy and official development assistance issues.

Ukraine is important to Canada because it is an emerging democracy in Central/East Europe, because there are potential Canadian-Ukraine trade and economic interests and because Canadians and Canada are seen to have special links and influence there.

Canada should promote economic reform and democratic development, including privatization, rule of law, stronger justice system and political/administrative reforms.

Technical assistance should focus on:

- providing Canadian advisors to reform-minded ministries,
- increasing Canada's representation on IFIs in Ukraine,
- making loan guarantees conditional on reform benchmarks,
- small business development (training, loans),
- training of public servants, particularly at provincial and municipal levels,
- promoting linkages between Canadian and Ukrainian associations, universities and business,
- encouraging more sensible privatization of state-owned firms and support Ukrainian farms cooperatives as an interim stage to full privatization,
- sponsoring policy forums that promote dialogue between bureaucrats and business people,
- supporting Canadian-Ukrainian farm industry linkages.

"a Canadian-sponsored seminar in Ukraine last month brought together Russian speakers from the Crimea with other Ukrainians for sessions on tolerance, accomodation and the workings of a multiethnic, multilingual state - Canadian-style."

"Canadians want a value-driven foreign policy," says Steven Lee, who heads the government-sponsored Centre for Foreign Policy Development. "They want democratic values and human rights to be central."

Paul Koring

TIME magazine, June 1997

Occasional Papers

1. The State of Canada's Foreign Policy Research Capacity
Maureen Molot et al. (Norman Patterson School of International Affairs)
2. Canada's International Cooperation NGOs and Policy
Tim Drainin (CCIC)