
important contribution to international security in the face of new threats to stability. Acceptance of such values abroad will help safeguard the quality of life at home: Canada is not an island able to resist a world community that devalued beliefs central to our identity.

Vitality of our culture is also essential to our economic success. In the new knowledge-based world economy, the skills of people, their education, ingenuity and social adaptability, will become key elements of international advantage. Our educational system, cultural diversity and continued dynamic growth in exports of cultural products and services will contribute significantly to our international achievement.

The Government intends to pursue these key objectives in the policy framework set out in this Statement. They will be the focus for the full span of the Government's instruments, including the programs of international trade, diplomacy, and international assistance.

More than ever before, it is important that foreign policy making broadly involves Canadians. The Government will ensure that it engages Canadians in all aspects of foreign policy on a systematic basis by conducting an annual foreign policy forum. We will build on our existing series of consultations to create a permanent and open consultation process with groups and individuals interested in key international topics. We will also establish a mechanism within the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade (DFAIT) for policy consultation, research and outreach, and will turn increasingly to Parliament for policy formulation and advice.

The Government is committed to ensuring that Canada will continue to do its fair share for the world, maintaining our proud and uniquely Canadian contribution to global governance and prosperity.