

Credible deterrence must go hand in hand with imagination at the negotiating table.

But there is no doubt that, in the last two years, the focus has turned to negotiation. That has already produced a treaty eliminating an entire category of nuclear weapons. The conference in Paris this week made progress towards an end to chemical weapons. There is a chance to move forward on human rights.

We may indeed be entering a new and more fluid era, where East/West differences are much less sharply etched. That would bring its own challenges, but would hold special opportunities for Canada, as a member of the Security Council, a strong and modern economy, and the immediate neighbour of both superpowers.

Thank you.