

The process of European integration is still very much under way. The European Union is continuing to grow with the inclusion of Austria, Finland, Norway and Sweden. The integration of these countries will mean that, for the first time, the European Union will share a border with Russia and Hungary. I believe that this new northern dimension for the European Union is a very positive thing, that we can expect it to lead to greater co-operation on circumpolar issues, be they the environment, security or sustainable development.

Since the tearing down of the Berlin Wall, the European Union has become a gateway to the new markets of Central and Eastern Europe. Canada sees this as an opportunity not to be missed, as does Europe, I'm sure. Once again, we can take advantage of our historical links with the Old World. More than one million Canadians are of Ukrainian or Polish descent. A large number of them have already returned to the country of their ancestors to forge new links, to help these countries develop their political, democratic and economic institutions.

L'École des hautes études commerciales de l'université de Montréal is participating in a new project to establish a modern MBA program in Romania. Launched just last week, some 20 Canadian professors will teach at the Graduate School of Management in Bucharest as part of this project valued at close to \$3 million. All four Montreal-based universities are acting as partners in the project.

#### **Canada and Europe at the Dawn of a New Century: Shared Advantages, Now More Than Ever**

The influence of the European Union is expanding, and, by the year 2000, the Union will look radically different. We must adjust to this new reality. However, it is clear that Canada has no intention of withdrawing from Europe. Rather, it is our intention to redeploy our efforts with a view to better meeting the challenges and seizing the opportunities with which we are presented by a changing and expanding Europe.

I think that both Europe and Canada can find inspiration for their actions in this regard in the words of Jean Monnet. As he indicated, we must work together, not to negotiate advantages, but to seek our advantage in shared advantage.

In the context of the examination that we must make of the new role of our international security organizations, we realize that, where the main priorities of the nations involved are concerned, economic interests have replaced military concerns.

The economy of the fast-approaching 21st century will be even more competitive and international. Education and training will ensure the success of nations in this economy. Institutions of higher learning make an essential contribution to the development of