

are a country of two language groups, English and French, each with its own autonomous culture, and yet a third of our population is neither English nor French in origin. Many of our citizens have come from other parts of Europe, both Eastern and Western. There are, in fact, more than 40,000 Canadians of Romanian background who are contributing their rich heritage to the mosaic of our national life.

Although we are on the North American continent, we have as a country tried to maintain the European traditions that we have inherited and to keep in touch with developments in Europe, applying them to our own situation as appropriate. Our systems of government and law, our mixture of public and private enterprise, our subsidization of culture and our social security system are all based on European models. In addition, since the Second World War our determination has grown to build a Canadian national identity that is original and different from that of either Europe or the United States. Our economy too is, in some ways, a paradox. In spite of our small population, we are the ninth-largest industrial nation in the world and the sixth-largest trading nation. We are, therefore, more conscious than many other countries of the realities of interdependence in the modern world.

Our geographic, cultural and economic realities have traditionally led us, as a middle power, to complement our relations with the United States with ties to other countries of a more similar size. To us, this is one of the advantages of the United Nations, the Commonwealth, and now of the new association of French-speaking countries. In this context we find advantages also in NATO, quite aside from those of a security nature. In the economic field, because of our particular dependence on international trade, we have for a long time pursued a multilateral approach to world trading problems. This multilateralism in politics and trade might be termed the basic principle of Canadian foreign policy. The necessities of Canadian independence make it essential for us to remain open to the world at large.

In reviewing our foreign policy, we have not tried to change this basic principle; rather, we have tried to adapt it to the developments that have occurred in Canada and the world in the last 20 years. We have tried to take account of such factors as the economic recovery of Europe and the growth in Canada of a greater sense of identity, with the consequent desire for the proper discharge of the obligations of our sovereignty at home. We have also had to consider the expansion of Canadian horizons beyond Europe, North America and the Commonwealth to include the French-speaking world, Latin America and the countries of the Pacific. In other words, we have tried to take into account the fact that Canada is, at the same time, an Atlantic, a Pacific, an Arctic and a North American country.

As a part of this enlargement of our world view, we have increased our expenditures on aid to the developing nations, entered into negotiations for the establishment of diplomatic relations with the People's Republic of China and sent missions both to Latin America and the countries of the Pacific. This does not mean, of course, that there has been a diminution of our interest in Europe. Indeed, our current review has confirmed one of the long-standing and basic elements of our foreign policy: that the security of Europe is vital to the security of Canada. Europe is the only area where the major nuclear