

FOREWORD

In May 1989, a delegation of twelve Lebanese Canadians, representative of the various Lebanese communities, along with the director of the National Council on Canada-Arab Relations, met with then Secretary of State Joe Clark to express with one united voice their collective concern for the deteriorating situation in Lebanon. Partly as a result of the interest expressed by Mr. Clark, the Canadian Institute for International Peace and Security decided to undertake a major research project on the conflict.

This project was initiated in August 1989 under the direction of Dr. Norma Salem, a Research Fellow at the Institute. Unfortunately, Dr. Salem passed away suddenly in 1990. The project was not abandoned however, and was re-initiated in August 1990.

Planning of the project involved long and careful consultation with international experts on Lebanon and the Middle East, in order to determine how to most constructively address the myriad of difficulties facing Lebanon and the Lebanese. As a result of these consultations, the Institute decided to undertake four distinct but interrelated workshops, organized to reflect the political, economic, social and human aspects of the conflict, and to assess the impact of the domestic, regional and international environment.

The workshops assembled a carefully selected group of analysts (from Lebanon, Canada, United States, France, United Kingdom, Jordan and Kuwait) whose task was to work together to examine the issues and to think constructively about avenues for action. Participants changed from workshop to workshop (according to expertise), but all workshops were interdisciplinary -- participants included academics, political actors (past and present) and opinion leaders with different perspectives and viewpoints.

This report summarizes the results of this two-year long research endeavour. The first workshop, **Why No Peace? Attempts to Settle the Conflict Since 1975**