

to assist in the process of modernization and democratic development in former communist Europe, despite the short-term costs.

## BUILDING A SECURE CONTINENT

The absence of a common European foreign and defence policy can be attributed to five factors:

- a prevailing perception that economic and military power are separate entities (In fact, the two are complementary);
- fears that a common European defence policy would harm NATO, armed forces are still configured nationally;
- an increase in the popularity of political parties and leaders who pursue right-wing, anti-European, and "nation-statist" policies; and
- the asymmetrical integration of member states into the EU.

A redesigned European defence force is developing at a disturbingly slow pace. To remedy this, European governments must move faster to develop a common defence policy that ensures co-operation among international security organizations. A military rapid reaction force would form a key component of this policy, coupled with an improved decision-making process, especially regarding peace enforcement. Also, instead of reducing defence budgets, existing funds should be used more efficiently. Finally, European governments must express a stronger will to combat terrorism.

## COPING WITH ETHNIC DIVERSITY

### *"Old Minorities" and "New Minorities"*

European governments face the difficulty of integrating both "new minorities" and "old minorities" into modern states. The integration of "old minorities," or long-established minority communities, has acquired renewed prominence since 1989, particularly in Central Europe. For example, the lack of integration of Roma minorities is an often-cited example of an old-minority situation that requires further attention by Central European governments.

Other problems associated with "old minorities" include maintaining boundaries and fuelling secession. The fall of communism was followed by the resurrection of the nation-state in Eastern Europe. The break-up of Yugoslavia represented a major test for inter-ethnic relations in post-Communist European states. The multilateral response to this crisis included standard-setting by the Council of Europe, the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe and other institutions. However, how the "old minorities" issue will be addressed in the context of enlargement remains an unresolved question.

Western Europe faces a slightly different challenge regarding minorities – that of integrating more recently arrived immigrants and refugees, or "new minorities". From the 1960s and 1970s, Western Europe began a transition from being an immigration source to North America to becoming a