

Some Highlights

Canada and NATO Enlargement

In response to the debate over NATO enlargement and the Minister's interests in hearing Canadian views on the issue, the Canadian Centre for Foreign Policy Development commissioned a major policy options paper on NATO enlargement. The paper argued:

- enlargement must be implemented in a manner which minimizes Russian concerns,
- enlargement must aim at maintaining the cohesion and effectiveness of the Alliance,
- enlargement must be conducted in parallel with other efforts to build or strengthen transatlantic ties,
- enlargement planning must include concrete initiatives for non-members in Eastern Europe, particularly the Ukraine.

From a policy options paper on "NATO Enlargement and Canada's Transatlantic Interests", a collaborative project led by Albert Legault, Laval University, and Allen Sens, University of British Columbia, autumn 1996. The paper was presented to the Minister and Foreign Affairs officials in preparation for the December 1996 NATO Ministers meeting.

Bosnia: After the Elections

In October 1996 NGOs, academics and government officials gathered to discuss issues and options for Canada's role in building peace in Bosnia-Herzegovina. Attention focused on strategies for Canadian governmental and NGO roles. Key recommendations included:

- Canada's role as peacebuilder in the region continues to be recognized and should be exploited,
- collaboration and coordination between NGOs on the ground and between NGOs and government is essential. Partnerships and pooling of resources between official and NGO actors should be exploited wherever possible.

Priority areas for Canadian involvement include security, human rights, refugees, elections and justice.

- the Dayton Accords, while imperfect, are the only viable option and therefore must serve as the context for reconstruction and rehabilitation,
- the success of the Accords depends on continued NATO and US presence. Canada should exert pressure on NATO allies, especially the US, to remain in Bosnia beyond IFOR's withdrawal,

Publications

NATO Enlargement and Canada's Trans-Atlantic Interests/Elargissement de l'OTAN et les intérêts transatlantiques du Canada Albert Legault, Allen Sens, Michel Fortmann and Paul Marantz (IQHEI Laval)

Bosnia-Herzegovina: Beyond the Elections Canadian Peacebuilding Coordinating Committee Managing Diversity in a Plural Society (Forum Eastern Europe)

Ethnic Conflicts and Social Stability in Eastern Europe (Forum Eastern Europe)

Canada's Information Edge Ann Medina (Canadian Foreign Policy)

