

To state the obvious, he continued, no one could say where all of this was leading. The best way of thinking about Europe's future might be to rely on the familiar bicycle metaphor, whereby the goal of remaining in motion was, in itself, as important as, if not more important than, determining where one should be headed; for, not to remain in motion on a bicycle meant to fall. The metaphor's logic suggested we study closely three tests currently or soon to be put to the EU: 1) European Monetary Union -- could we count on it remaining workable, or would it succumb to pressure brought to bear by inflationist members of the currency group?; 2) EU enlargement on a large scale -- would this prove too much for the EU to digest?; and 3) Second Pillar issues -- could ESDP be made effective, and made to function cooperatively with NATO?

Prof. Siccama proffered his own list of items that might constitute an agenda for Dutch-Canadian bilateral diplomacy: 1) human security, 2) peacekeeping, 3) linking development cooperation with security, 4) regional conflict management, and 5) working with the US to get it once again to see multilateral arms control as being in its own best security interest.

With hardly anything left unsaid during the two days of candid, constructive, and always thought-provoking discussion, Ms. Cartwright concluded by expressing her thanks to all the participants for their contributions, and observed, with some irony, that it was "always a challenge to have an irritant-free relationship." Still, she said, it would be wrong to infer from the lack of bilateral irritants any cause for complacency, and she likened the bilateral relationship to a marriage, which regardless of how solidly established it might be, always required and deserved ongoing attention.

David G. Haglund
Queen's University

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