

As we come to honour your victory over the forces of repression, we must remain vigilant. The image of Boris Yeltsin on that tank will haunt any leader on any continent who dares to hide behind the false veil of intervention in the internal affairs of a country.

That is why we are particularly troubled by the reaction of some states to Conference on Security and Co-operation in Europe (CSCE) scrutiny. This smacks of old-style thinking and must be resisted.

Together, we must continue to hold Iraq to UN Security Council resolutions and bring Saddam Hussein to heed the will of the international community.

There has been a perception that we have differing views on responsibility and remedy in the former Yugoslavia. In fact, I know we both see the urgent and immediate need to stop the carnage. Canadians are outraged by the systematic rape and unjustified violence in Bosnia.

We in Canada understand the priority that you attach to the situation of Russians living in neighbouring countries. The CSCE has the potential to protect the rights of minorities in Russia and elsewhere, eliminating the need to intervene on their behalf.

Crucial to the resolution of most human rights situations is the establishment of local and regional systems for self-sufficiency. Globalization and international competitiveness are inescapable realities of our time. Russia and the countries of Central and Eastern Europe have already recognized the opportunities that exist and have begun to act on them.

You have freely chosen integration into the world financial and trading system, and the responsibilities that go with it. Canada welcomes this choice. It is in everyone's best interest.

But let me emphasize that we are very sensitive to the difficulties you face. With a population of 155 million people, the world's largest land mass and an intricate economic system developed over 70 years, the challenges you have embraced are daunting beyond description. You have earned the respect of all of our countries as you build your new vision of the future.

I am proud that my country, Canada, was the first to press for a high-level G-7 dialogue with Russia. I am confident that this dialogue will continue at Tokyo and beyond.