

including: immigration, culture, and the environment:

- Most participants agreed that tackling migration-related problems will pose serious challenges to policy makers around the world. The growth of migration and refugee movements, mostly from the poor “South” to the rich “North,” is being matched by calls in the “North” to clamp down on illegal refugees and to reduce legal immigration. The problem of internally displaced people was also identified as one of the biggest security challenges today. A point was made that rather than enhancing security, making immigrants unwelcomed, and treating refugees as criminals, Canada and other “Western” industrialised countries should address the “migration threat” by promoting human rights, democratic development and sustainable economic growth in the countries from which immigrants and refugees originate.
- A point was made that the “war against terrorism” threatens Canada’s cultural values. The “war” has opened a space for intolerance and prejudice, starting with an assumption that “terrorism can not be fought in a colour blind fashion.”
- Another consequence of September 11 was that the global environmental agenda has been put on the back-burner once again. Canada should lead efforts to put environment back on the agenda – not everything has changed since September 11.

4. Longer Term Policy Challenges for Canada

One participant suggested that there is no strategic design for Canada’s international activities. He said that the Canadian Government is pursuing tactical goals, sometimes in a counter-productive fashion, in the absence of a foreign policy and international strategy. Such a strategy should set out Canada’s objectives in the world. The objectives must encompass more than the pursuit of “growth and prosperity” and should include:

- humanitarian and human rights dimensions (including a coherent aid strategy),
- advancing moderation and eliminating extremism,
- breaking cycles of conflict, and
- promoting abroad what we do best at home – being a leader in community and society building.

The absence of a future-oriented strategic design is having profound implications for defence policy, military preparedness and practice, especially. As the nature of war changes (i.e., from inter-state to intra-state) traditional war fighting preparations are no longer enough for defence planners. The government needs to better articulate its policy goals and expectations for the military to more exactly spell out the military’s conflict prevention/resolution tasks and objectives. Training and new skills development are needed to enable this “transformation of war.”

Canada has its own “Manifest Destiny” based on our history, international engagement and special characteristics (well recognized by others). The post September 11 crisis opens the door