

unless all available, however small, steps are being taken to reduce mistrust and promote cooperation among states.

But if individuals faced with the threat of state-to-state confrontation cannot live in security, neither can they live in real peace if their fundamental human rights are denied them by their governmental authorities or other citizens by their own governments.

In this context I am convinced that the CSCE process can play a role in improving relations among our states in both respects: to ensure that our people can live free from the threat of war, and free from arbitrary authority.

What has Canada done, what does it intend to do in this respect? The achievement of greater stability and greater security in Europe has been Canada's prime objective at the Madrid meeting for these past three years. At times this objective appeared more distant hope than realistic possibility. Yet, the opportunity for dialogue over critical East-West issues which the unique CSCE process offers is one which must be taken most seriously.

It is only through reasoned dialogue and debate that the participating states can arrive at acceptable solutions to the problems and tensions which beset Europe. The CSCE process provides a basis -- the Final Act -- to set out the common values and interests which are aimed at increasing security and cooperation in Europe. It provides a forum -- the review meetings -- to evaluate the degree to which participating states live up to their obligations under the Final Act. It provides a method -- the concluding documents of these review meetings -- for enhancing the collective undertakings of the participating states beyond those of the Final Act. Taken together, these instruments constitute the solid framework of a new European political process aimed at the future, one which is inherently dynamic and outward-looking, molding itself to changes in international relationships and indeed contributing to a shaping of these relationships. It is a process which encourages cooperation over confrontation, debate over diktat, negotiation and compromise over isolation and absolutes.

How profound is the sense of suspicion and how brutal its consequences can be have been tragically demonstrated in another part of the world. The corrosive effects of that distrust know no barriers. In the 1930's, a distinguished Soviet Foreign Minister, Maxim Litvinov, reminded the world that peace