

In addition, in the context of reviewing its military strategy, NATO should move away from a rigid forward defence to a much more flexible approach involving mobile units, possibly including forces of a multinational nature. NATO's new military posture should be designed to minimize force levels and to maximize stability. We want to reduce insecurity in the East.

But NATO, although it is of enduring value, has its limitations, a function of its mandate and its membership. There are other institutions whose role must be enhanced and transformed if they are to play a useful role in the elaboration of a new European system. And it is there that Canada must also focus its efforts.

Central among these is the Conference on Security and Co-operation in Europe. Its membership is comprehensive, encompassing the nations of Europe, North America and the Soviet Union. Its mandate extends across the board - to security, political and economic matters, as well as to human and social rights.

The principles embodied in its earlier accords provided the vision and the standards which helped inspire the brave democrats of Eastern Europe. The role of the CSCE must now be expanded so that it becomes the drawing board for the new European architecture. As a complement to NATO, the CSCE can become a true instrument of co-operative security, one which would supplement deterrence with re-assurance. And as the nature of European security expands beyond military balances to political stability and economic prosperity, there is a central role for the CSCE in the areas of human rights, economic co-operation and environmental action.

Until now, the CSCE has functioned on an intermittent basis. It has lacked the institutional framework now required for effective and ongoing co-operation and confidence-building. If the CSCE is to become the preferred forum for comprehensive discussions in the political, economic, security and human dimensions, it must develop the tools to perform those tasks.

Canada believes that continuing political direction from the highest level is required on a regular and ongoing basis if the CSCE is to realize its full potential. Canada proposes that the CSCE should meet annually at the level of Foreign Ministers and bi-annually at the level of Heads of Government. This political body could serve as the beginning of a Council for European Co-operation, a future, permanent forum for dialogue on pan-European issues.

The CSCE should develop a forum to reflect the increasingly democratic character of its membership. Therefore, we also