

## PREFACE

*The Guide 1991* reviews major developments in the field of international peace and security from August 1990 to mid-August 1991, and surveys Canadian political statements and parliamentary debates on these issues.

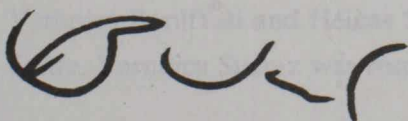
This annual *Guide* is intended to be a user-friendly reference book for students, speakers, commentators and analysts who require reliable, factual information on recent Canadian participation and debate in the turbulent field of international affairs. This is the sixth annual issue of this publication and some of the material has been cumulative in previous years. This year, our writers have reduced the size of *The Guide 1991*, and refer readers to last year's edition if more background information is required.

*The Guide 1991* contains a lengthy entry on the second Persian Gulf War which broke out as last year's *Guide* went to press. There is also a new entry dealing with arms control in the Middle East at a time when hopes have been raised for a Middle East peace conference. Section III of *The Guide*, dealing with conflict resolution, also contains an entry on Israel and the occupied territories as the whole Middle East region boomeranged back into the headlines in the aftermath of the Persian Gulf War. An entry on Yugoslavia gives an account of the tumultuous events taking place in its six republics.

A new section in *The Guide* deals with institutions reflecting the importance for Canada internationally of the CSCE, and Canada's involvements with its Pacific neighbours and those to the south.

While there is obvious value to an annual review and reference source, the whirlwind pace of international change in recent years inevitably means that its coverage must be interrupted at some crucial point. This year at the time of writing, the Soviet Union is in turmoil after an attempted coup, and the direction of the Union and its constituent parts hangs in the balance. These events and their sequel will be covered in next year's edition of *The Guide*.

Canadian interests and values are deeply engaged in the changes of this volatile world. Moreover, instantaneous global communication has brought such events to the living rooms of every Canadian and has increased broad public interest in them. We believe that this may deepen and widen reflection about effective Canadian roles in strengthening international peace and security. This *Guide* can contribute by enabling readers to set a clear context for recent events in international affairs, trace their evolution, and look critically at Canada's participation and potential roles.



Bernard Wood  
Chief Executive Officer