



This approach has been a consistent element of Canadian foreign policy. At the conclusion of his visits to many world capitals in 1983, former Prime Minister Pierre Trudeau suggested ten principles of a common bond between East and West:

- Both sides agree that a nuclear war cannot be won.
- Both sides agree that a nuclear war must never be fought.
- Both sides wish to be free of the risk of accidental war or of surprise attack.
- Both sides recognize the dangers inherent in destabilizing weapons.
- Both sides understand the need for improved techniques of crisis management.
- Both sides are conscious of the awesome consequences of being the first to use force against the other.
- Both sides have an interest in increasing security while reducing the cost.
- Both sides have an interest in avoiding the spread of nuclear weapons to other countries, so-called horizontal proliferation.
- Both sides have come to a guarded recognition of each other's legitimate security interests.
- Both sides realize that their security strategies cannot be based on the assumed political or economic collapse of the other side.

These principles, reflected in the Gorbachev-Reagan Summit statement, broaden the perspective of East-West relations and stimulate greater international effort in the search for a durable peace.

In his first speech immediately after assuming office in September 1984, Prime Minister Brian Mulroney reiterated the commitment of the Canadian Govern-



Logo of the International Year of Peace.

ment to work effectively within the world's multilateral forums to reduce tensions, alleviate conflict and create the conditions for a lasting peace. He said:

'There can be no let up in our efforts to reduce the threat of war. No matter how frustrating or difficult, negotiations must be pursued.... The exercise of political will is nowhere more important than on this issue on whose outcome the lives of our children and humanity depend.'

And he added:

'No matter how much we may accomplish here in Canada, I will have failed in my most cherished ambition if under my leadership Canada has not helped reduce the threat of war and enhance the promise of peace.'

External Affairs Minister Joe Clark carried the Government's commitment into the global community when he stated in an address to the thirty-ninth General Assembly of the United Nations:

'Canada, for its part, is determined to continue to play a leading role in the search for peace and disarmament. We believe the nuclear build-up threatens the life of every Canadian, and the existence of human society. Countries like our own must use influence to reverse that build-up and reduce the danger of destruction. That will be a

constant, consistent, dominant priority of Canadian foreign policy.'

Canada has a long, constructive history of active engagement with the most important global issues. This tradition was outlined by Mr. Clark in the foreword to the Government's Green Paper on foreign policy:

'We assisted at San Francisco in the creation of the UN. We were at Bretton Woods when the post-war monetary system was designed. We were at Havana and Geneva as well, where the international trading system was conceived. We have worked diligently ever since to improve international order — Lester Pearson and peacekeeping, Howard Green and the Partial Test Ban Treaty, Paul Martin and membership in the UN for newly independent states, Pierre Trudeau and cooperation between North and South and between East and West.'

Although 1986 is designated by the UN as the International Year of Peace, every year is a year to work for peace and Canada will go on pushing and probing for viable ways to stop the spread of nuclear weapons with the motivation and spirit described in the 1984 Throne Speech:

'Patience and perseverance we will need, for in this endeavor even the smallest progress is worthy of the greatest effort.'

Thus, Canada, along with its Allies, works to influence and assist the bilateral negotiations in positive, constructive ways in order to achieve radical reductions in nuclear weapons. This is done through a great deal of unpublicized effort. Though there is only room for the two superpowers at the Geneva negotiating table, Canada constantly stresses that the conduct of these negotiations will have an impact on every nation on earth. The ongoing negotiations — with their series of offers and counter-offers — indicate the scope and complexity of the extensive systems of nuclear arms possessed by both sides. Though agreement still seems a long way off, most experienced