

of conflict as a source of harmony. Governments are having increasing difficulty reconciling the tensions placed on them by competing groups and resolving the problems of a new, and substantially changed, world.

Together with this is the discussion of the changing role of the nation state. There has been increasing power and influence of the multinational corporations that have determined the political, social and economic patterns within many countries. This combined with the new technologies and the worldwide communication systems have left many countries feeling that they are no longer able to direct policies on their own nation.

The increasing role of the international non-governmental organization or civil society as a third force has received a lot of attention. Particularly at the international level where you have the United Nations representing the political sector with the multinationals representing the economic sector and the NGO=s are providing a significant third force in representing civil society. International non-governmental organizations have played an ever increasing role in many of the major international meetings such as the World Summit on the Environment in Rio, the Women=s Meetings in Beijing, the Population Conference in Egypt and the Social Summit. Some have even speculated that the United Nations would fold without the active participation of the non-governmental sector. Certainly in the landmines initiatives the NGO=s played a major force for change.

Events in the Broader Context of What Happens in Disability Canada and International

The status of disabled people in Canada and internationally has changed over the years.

What Has Changed

Hasn=t Changed

Emerging Opportunities
and New Issues