

Thank you, Professor Uren, for your kind words and warm welcome. It is a pleasure to have the opportunity to address this distinguished academic gathering so soon after taking up my new functions as Secretary of State for External Affairs. In fact this is my first public speech in that capacity and I think it is a particularly appropriate occasion because your concerns and mine are to a significant degree both related and complementary. Related because it is clear to any student of international affairs that the activities and aspirations of the 370 million people who live in the USSR and Eastern Europe are bound to be of crucial importance to the wider questions of world peace and stability that must be of concern to all governments. Complementary because, while you are for the most part engaged in the academic and private sectors and I in the public sector, we are both