

IMPLEMENTING A COMMON SECURITY POLICY

A) Organizing for an International Consensus

Organizing for common security would require Canada to take the idea of international activism and global public relations to what would be unprecedented levels for this country, and indeed most countries.

It would primarily require us to develop and expand Canadian diplomacy to an extent that would make us, within the common security sphere, a superpower in our own right. It is worth noting that the budget of the whole U.N. system is only about \$4 billion dollars--half of what Canada spends on defense. Within the U.N. system, Canada could become a major financial player on a budget of the magnitude of which we have advocated for a common security policy.

The main basis of our influence, however, would not be financial power, but rather the power of superb information, superb contacts, superb negotiating skill, and over time, the accumulation of international good-will and respect toward Canada, and what would no doubt come to be regarded as "the Canadian way." Canada has already developed an effective, internationally respected style of diplomacy that emphasizes communication, cooperation, fairness and compromise. What is required now is much, much more of it, along with the concomitant development of a sophisticated international research, networking and lobbying capacity. These are just some examples of the sorts of things Canada could do in implementing a common security policy:

- make maximum use of its ethnic population as a source of future diplomats (eg. look to the Slavic community for diplomats for Eastern Europe, etc.);
- create Canadian institutes and think tanks for the study of the U.N., international organization, and international law;
- expand Canadian embassies to include a "Common Security Section";
- expand its U.N. mission;
- develop detailed common security "profiles" of other countries, identifying non-governmental organizations, academics and members of government with global consciousness and common security convictions;
- promote, by all appropriate means, the formation of international networks and organizations to consolidate the shift toward common security (eg., provide support to the World Federation of U.N. Associations, the Parliamentarians for World Order, the World Association of World Federalists, etc.).

Canada is already adept at promoting its other interests abroad, especially in the area of trade. What is being suggested here on behalf of common security is mostly a difference of subject matter and scale of effort. Other nations may provide examples of how campaigns for international influence can be waged. Israel and the Soviet Union, for instance,