

Finally, I want to refer to human rights. Canada, of course, cannot impose our standards on the world, but we can act to seek respect for the standards the United Nations has established, and the obligations freely entered into in the Helsinki Accord. The Special Parliamentary Joint Committee urged the Government to continue our commitment to an active human rights policy. We are doing that, and will soon establish an International Institute for Human Rights and Institutional Development, in response to the Committee's recommendation. We are increasingly factoring human rights consideration into our aid and development policies, while taking care not to penalize the very people whose human rights are being abused. In June, I had the honour to welcome to Ottawa Mr. Danylo Shumuk, a Ukrainian prisoner of conscience who had finally been released after years of imprisonment in the Soviet Union and pressure from Canada, to join his relatives in freedom in Canada. I took him to the floor of the House of Commons, our free Parliament, and showed him the seats of some of the Members. When I pointed out the Prime Minister's seat, Mr. Shumuk said: "I know where he sits. He sits next to Mr. Mazankowski." His family had told him of the progress in Canada of the Mazankowski's and the Hnatysyn's and others, and the contrast between systems was clear. To be an outspoken Ukrainian in the Soviet Union was to spend years in prison. To be a proud eastern European in Canada was to become the Deputy Prime Minister. It is that quality of freedom which defines our country, and informs the position this Government will continue to take regarding prisoners of conscience, regarding apartheid, regarding other abuses of human rights.

I am proud of what we have been able to do, in less than three years, in foreign policy - but even more enthusiastic about what we can do, particularly if more Canadians become more active in taking the practical, often personal, steps that have won Canada our standing in the world. We should not exaggerate our influence, nor should we ignore it, nor decline to exercise it. We are a vast country whose only immediate neighbours are three oceans and two superpowers - a diverse society whose people came from every corner, every culture, every colour of the world, and whose interests reach