

But in fact, the majority of the ten principles in Basket I relating to questions of security in Europe, were cast in Western terms and reaffirmed principles previously articulated and established in documents such as the Charter of the United Nations. No new law, no lex specialis for Europe, has been set down.

The Final Act contains clear statements on the respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms, on the equal rights and self-determination of peoples, on co-operation among states and on the fulfilment in good faith of obligations under international law. It also contained a principle on the inviolability of frontiers but emphasized that frontiers can be changed, in accordance with international law, by peaceful means and by agreement. The emphasis throughout is on state-to-state or person-to-person as opposed to bloc-to-bloc relations, and on change as opposed to the status quo. These issues were of vital concern to us in our pursuit of the policy of détente. Canada with its allies made it clear throughout the negotiations that our interest was in the relaxation of tensions so that all people might live in a more peaceful and less dangerous world.

Basket II meets that aspect of the policy of détente which calls for co-operation in the fields of trade, science, the environment and tourism. One of the principal problems encountered in these dealings in the past has been the difficulty in making effective contacts - and the Final Act recognizes that these are just as important to trade as they are in the cultural and educational fields.

One of the tests of the success of the CSCE, therefore, will be the extent to which such contacts can be developed. As you will appreciate, much of the detailed work in this area has still to be done - part of it in the Multilateral Trade Negotiations in Geneva and part in the Economic Commission for Europe, in both of which organizations Canada is playing its part. As a major trading and industrial nation, Canada will have much to gain from the implementation of Basket II, and we will actively pursue the promising opportunities for the various forms of co-operation recommended.

The part of the Final Act that reflects Canada's and Western concerns most clearly is Basket III. Here state-to-state relations are secondary to the emphasis on person-to-person relations. This area represents a breakthrough in itself, since before CSCE, some countries did not consider that matters such as family reunification, the movement of people and ideas and the treatment of journalists were negotiable in a multilateral setting at all. After two years of hard work, however, the texts in Basket III have proved most satisfactory. Canada considers that these texts should now be acted upon by all participants; no further agreements are necessary before their letter and spirit can be implemented.