

for example, transcends East-West tensions. If, however, we could make progress towards achieving it now in Vienna, we could help to reduce these tensions.

After some hesitation in Ottawa, the Soviet Union and other Eastern European states joined this dialogue and even referred to specific problems. We welcomed this development, and we found that the debate in Ottawa helped to illuminate the fundamental differences which exist in the way east and west understand human rights.

Canada and many other participating states called for the affirmation and extension of individual freedoms, based on their appreciation of the human being as an autonomous individual. These freedoms are inherent rights of people; they are not at the disposal of the state. We recognize that the right to work and the right to an adequate standard of living are laudable aims; but they do not replace individual human rights on which these aims are based. In other words, basic human rights and fundamental freedoms are neither dispensable nor exchangeable.

At the Ottawa meeting, the Canadian Delegation did not agree to any watering down of individual human rights. We stood and we stand by our proposals aimed at furthering these rights. In the joint draft of the concluding report, which we sponsored with a number of other delegations, we set forth reasonable proposals designed to promote greater respect for human rights in the fields that I mentioned. None of these proposals jeopardizes the sovereignty or the security of any participating state. We intend to return to these questions at the appropriate time here in Vienna.

During the three years since Madrid, respect for the principle of human rights and compliance with the humanitarian provisions of the Final Act have hardly changed in some countries of Eastern Europe, although where there has been some improvement we welcome it.

As I said two weeks ago in another forum here, the Soviet human rights record remains deplorable. The new wind of which we are told blows cold, dumping upon my delegation and others tirades of accusations reminiscent of a period long before the Final Act....

In some Eastern European states, repression against individuals, as well as social, religious, national, and ethnic groups, has actually increased since