

## A new place for Asia

"The likely emergence of China and India, as well as others, as new major global players—similar to the advent of a united Germany in the 19th century and a powerful United States in the early 20th century—will transform the geopolitical landscape, with impacts potentially as dramatic as those in the previous two centuries. In the same way that commentators refer to the 1900s as the American Century, the 21st century may be seen as the time when Asia, led by China and India, comes into its own."

U.S. National Intelligence Council

## Percentage share of world GDP (in terms of purchasing power parity)

	2004	2050
United States	27.2	18.6
China	16.2	27.4
India	6.1	17.5
Russia	3.4	3.1
Brazil	3.4	4.3
Japan	9.3	3.2
Germany	5.6	2.3
United Kingdom	4.0	2.0

Source: Goldman Sachs estimates

## Redrawing the map

"...how we mentally map the world in 2020 will change radically. The 'arriviste' powers—China, India and perhaps others such as Brazil and Indonesia—have the potential to render obsolete the old categories of East and West, North and South, aligned and non-aligned, developed and developing. Traditional geographic groupings will increasingly lose salience in international relations."

U.S. National Intelligence Council

## Number of cars owned (thousands)

	2005	2020	2030	2040	2050
United States	148,656	176,932	195,651	214,713	233,174
China	19,251	131,632	273,760	423,491	514,041
India	9,039	38,644	114,812	324,209	610,902
Brazil	27,917	60,026	95,545	130,973	147,343
Russia	27,127	57,517	74,086	78,480	75,441
Japan	56,780	60,711	60,304	57,476	54,344
Germany	45,776	49,549	49,371	48,767	47,130

Source: Goldman Sachs BRICs Model Projections

Africa. Canada's voting power at the IMF and World Bank could be reduced as other nations gain a larger share. The G7/G8 could be replaced by a new entity that might exclude Canada, which would have to work much harder to make its concerns felt and influence the future course of the planet.

But Canada's capacity to play the global role that Canadians aspire to will depend on many factors, including creating and allocating the resources that allow it to do so. This means Canada has to be an economic, social and environmental success at home. In particular, Canada has to make the transition to a knowledge-based society, with a high level of literacy and capacity for innovation.

The country's military spending will continue to be important, not only for the surveillance of its own coastlines and airways—including, increasingly, the Arctic—but also to be a credible member of NATO and capable of supplying peacekeeping or other forces around the world. If Canada is to have credibility, it must be able to back words with deeds.

At the same time, Canada must improve its capacity as a global problem solver. This will mean allocating resources and ideas to helping solve world challenges, such as achieving the Millennium Development Goals, addressing the long-term issue of climate change, dealing with public health and infectious diseases, and assisting in the building of institutions and capacities in the developing world. It will also mean working to strengthen the institutions of global governance, which will be even more important in a world of 9 billion people than they are in a world of 6.4 billion people. Prime Minister Paul Martin's proposal for an active L20 to provide leadership on global governance is an important contribution. At the same time, Canada will need to enhance its diplomatic capabilities, working with coalitions of like-minded nations on key issues, as it did on the landmines treaty and the International Criminal Court.

No one can accurately say what the future will bring, as we cannot predict the inevitable surprises that will occur. But we do know that the next 50 years will see challenges and that Canadians want to be actively engaged in helping to address those challenges. This is why it is so important today that we identify the most effective means by which we can be global players of influence in the years ahead. 🍁

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