

institutional deficits and globalization, millions of youth cannot be absorbed. Forty percent of the Islamic population is under 15 years of age and 20% are unemployed. There are no national solutions in their countries and they are attacking this situation. For prevention there needs to be capital, goods and worldwide productivity.

Questions from the audience

Question: Is the solution now that the right is right versus might is right?

Stuart: We have to find a balance between the unilateralism of the US and the humanitarian issues which need to be addressed. We need to address the deconstruction of Afghanistan, as has been done in other countries, for example, the deconstruction of the former USSR and the US aid provided to support this deconstruction. We also need to support the efforts of the Deputy Prime Minister of Afghanistan, Madam Sima Simar, in the reintegration of women into the political process.

Question: At the G8 in Kananaskis, can we try and dissuade the US from adopting a new nuclear policy?

Graham: This is up to the Prime Minister, but I believe the point will be raised. Colin Powell has a sincere belief in the multilateral approach, although there are other American voices that favour a new policy approach. We have to work with like-minded groups in the US...

Côté: At the moment, the military intervention does have a purpose, but this is a short-term purpose. The question is reconstruction, which needs a multifaceted, holistic approach in Afghanistan and its neighbouring countries.

Evans: With the Bush administration, US interests are primary in its foreign policy. They use the tools needed, rather than its commitments, believing others can give-in in terms of objectives defined by the US. This is not the only view in the US, but it is the ascendant view. This approach has been exacerbated by 9/11, but it started before September 11th.

Stuart: We need to use all of our connections to encourage alternative voices in the US, whether it is NGOs, foundations, such as the Carnegie Endowment for Peace, women's groups or business groups. Canadians are well placed to do this because we probably understand their culture and reality better than any other country. If we do not use these connections and relationships for peace and for trying to find common, non-violent, non-military solutions to the problems posed by 9/11, we will be guilty of contributing to the kind of human insecurity that exists.

Medina: Given Canada's unique position with the Commonwealth, with the Francophonie, and now as head of the G8 this year, is there a role we can play internationally, not just with the United States, in terms of trying to get an effective multilateral coalition?

Graham: Absolutely. That has been our traditional role and, as you say, the institutions are there. There is the Commonwealth, the Francophonie, the Organization of American States, and