

Canadian government commitments to create a culture of peace:*Platform for Action¹*

para 146(a): Promote peaceful conflict resolution and peace, reconciliation and tolerance through education, training, community actions and youth exchange programs, in particular for young women;

para 146(d): Consider establishing educational programs....

para 233(h): Promote education... in human rights and international humanitarian law for members of the national security and armed forces, including those assigned to United Nations peace-keeping operations....

*Recommendations***The Canadian government:**

1. Take measures to strengthen and support the UN's role in international conflict, i.e. take the decision making from the US and NATO.
2. Train Canadian military personnel in:
 - alternative means of conflict resolution (rather than war)
 - transfer of military skills into peaceful use
 - racial tolerance, cultural issues
 - peace activities such as policing.
3. Pursue an establishment of a special UN unit (non-military, non-violent and gender balanced) for third party conflict resolution.
4. Pursue the creation of an international institution for global peace training and alternatives to military peacekeeping.

Canadian government commitments to military conversion and reduced military spending:*Platform for Action*

para 143: (a) Increase and hasten... the conversion of military resources and related industries to development and peaceful purposes; (b) Undertake to explore new ways of generating new public and private financial resources... through the appropriate reduction of excessive military expenditures....

para 349: ... Governments should reduce... excessive military expenditures and investments for arms production and acquisition....

*Recommendations***The Canadian government:**

1. Redirect Canadian military spending towards:
 - peace keeping activities and encourage other nations to do the same
 - conversion projects such as development of appropriate technologies for the countries in the South (solar energy is more appropriate in the regions with lots of sunlight; wind energy; clean water and water distribution projects)
 - landmine removal
 - environmental clean up, both military and industrial, in Canada and abroad
 - peace education in schools (conflict resolution and anti-racism).



¹ Report of the Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing, September 1995.