

old structures coming down and new structures being built. Each of those structures -- new and old -- has origins and consequences which relate to the others. Each of those new structures is incomplete and fragile. Making those structures strong will require courage, effort and sometimes sacrifice.

And building those structures is what the Canada-Soviet relationship is now about. That was not always the case. Until Mr. Gorbachev arrived on the scene, relations between our two countries were both limited and contentious. They were steeped in suspicion. We spent our time perpetuating tension, not promoting co-operation.

That our relationship is now so different -- and has even greater potential -- is a function of the radical changes brought to Soviet attitudes, Soviet society and Soviet policy. Their achievement is our opportunity.

Soviet ideology was once in direct opposition to Canadian values. But there are now fundamental new freedoms for the individual and the media, the move towards political structures which are democratic, the transition to a Soviet Union based on the rule of law.

Five years ago, in Israel, I met Anatoly Sharansky, one of the first few Soviet Jews to be released. Monday, at the Knassett, I discussed with Prime Minister Shamir the new problem for Israel of receiving 400,000 more Soviet Jews over the next five years. And while the Soviet Union has yet to embrace Adam Smith, it has surely rejected Karl Marx in all but name.

In foreign policy, the Soviet Union is now a fixer not a nixer. It has stopped hindering and started helping. A week ago today, the Prime Minister and I met Mr. Gorbachev and Mr. Shevardnadze in Paris. This conversation confirmed once again, that in region after region, on problem after problem, the Soviet Union now brings a welcome flexibility, and assessments remarkably similar to Canada's. We see this at the CSCE, in the Pacific, in Cambodia, in Central America, in Angola, in South Africa, Afghanistan and the Gulf. We see it in the fight against drugs, the struggle against terrorism, the pursuit of arms control. Disagreement with the Soviet Union was once the rule; it is now the exception. And what disagreement does exist is often one of degree, not kind, and flows from national interest not ideological intransigence or ambition.

We are no longer enemies. We are no longer foes in a Cold War no one could win. We are friends. We are partners in building a structure of co-operative security and prosperity in which we all win.