

those foreign policy developments to develop and increase the objectives, and to enhance the objectives that we have spelled out for ourselves in Canada.

Now that, of course, is a fairly simple and straightforward definition, and it requires a good deal of elaboration because, first of all, as is very clear to all of us, there is not unanimity within Canada, obviously, as to what our domestic goals and our national objectives are. And perhaps that was never more a subject for serious discussion than it is at this particular time.

Secondly, many of our domestic goals and our aspirations are short-term, and essentially, and perhaps necessarily, subjective. And so therefore, when one talks about translating foreign policy thrusts, foreign policy initiatives, as a method for bolstering national objectives it has to be recognized that there will inevitably be times when, in the foreign policy field, we will be looking much, much longer, in terms of our perspective than is likely to be the case within the country at a given moment.

Similarly, of course, it will always be the case that whatever our foreign policy is and whatever thrusts we may undertake in international affairs, there will always be particular interest groups within Canada who will not be totally in agreement with some aspect of our foreign policy. This may be because of economic reasons. It may be because of ethnic reasons. It can be for a whole range of other reasons including regional ones. And so, therefore, when one is seeking to determine at any given moment in time what foreign policy activities should be undertaken by Canada, it is always important to recognize that, in the words of the old expression, "You can't please all of the people all of the time."

What I'm really saying in essence is that while our domestic policy and our domestic objectives will tend to be fluid, at least superficially, our foreign policy activities have to be of a more stable and long-range nature, and certainly cannot be subject to buffeting on a constant basis by a variety of pressure groups however well-intentioned and however deserving those may be.

And so against that kind of brief comment about the way in which I visualize handling the foreign affairs of this country, let me spend much of my time now by talking to you about the subject that I thought might interest you more than any other, and that is how Canada will behave as a member of the Security Council of the United Nations when we assume our membership on that council on the 1st of January.

It's interesting in this context, by the way, to note that Canada is now taking on its fourth tour on the Security Council. We were there back in Mr. Ignatieff's first tour, I believe in New York in the first decade of the United Nations, and we have been there in each of the decades since.