## A Time of Hope and Fear

debase the coinage. Collective security actually has a fighting chance of being implemented through the UN and a variety of other mechanisms. Functionalism makes more sense than it ever did, as an approach to managing global problems in pragmatic ways and in the process building the fibres of community. The Canadian functional principle of representation makes more sense than it ever did, as a formula for sensible burden-sharing, for reconciling the realities of disparate power and the need for universal participation.

And maybe even a sense of efficacy and vision by middle powers makes more sense than it ever did — with many new candidates and potential allies newly released from the bonds of divisive blocs — East and West, North and South. Most of these states share an interest in rule-based rather than power-based international relations, allowing for sensible integration to proceed but not by the fiat of the strongest. These countries tend as well to share a special capacity for peacekeeping and peace-making, which are obviously global growth industries.

No country can match Canada's established niche, its extraordinary connections (in North America, the G7, NATO and CSCE, Asia-Pacific, Commonwealth, Francophonie, and OAS), or its capacity for diplomatic leadership among a wider group of nations with a stake in working for a better kind of world order. It is also clear that most Canadians, in all parts of the country, at least tacitly accept that such a foreign policy protects their interests and projects their values. All available testimony from foreigners tends to corroborate the view that the traditional Canadian role in the world — together with its model of pluralism and tolerance at home — remains as constructive and important as ever, and if anything should be strengthened.

## b. Foreign Policy Imperatives for a New Canada

Even though there is nothing on the international scene and little popular sentiment which argues for a basic change in Canada's international character and role, this satisfactory aspect of the *status quo* seems unlikely to prevail. It remains to ask how the range of constitutional changes now being hammered out among Canada's power-brokers and special interest groups would affect the global interests and values of the twenty-six million internationally-linked people of this country.

Whatever else happens in Canada's constitutional decisions, Canadians continue to depend vitally on an international climate of peace and