

## SUMMARY

As Canadians wrestle with constitutional choices over the next few months, their international implications and consequences need serious thought and consideration. What effects have the enormous changes during the past few years had on the need and scope for Canada in the world? What would be the effect of a diminished Canada on the rest of the world? And what do our foreign policy and actions tell us about our common identity and values?

### The End of the Cold War

Some cynics and separatists have seized on the end of the Cold War to argue that it has ushered in an era of peace and tranquillity, making past security alliances irrelevant, and a coherent Canadian state unnecessary.

Some peace! Some tranquillity!

The end of the Cold War has opened up *more* instability, *more* challenges to security, and *more* dangers of armed conflict. In fairness, it has also opened up extraordinary opportunities.

There are strong analogies in the present situation to the period after the Second World War; the difference is that rather than *fear and hope*, as Escott Reid described those years, we now have *hope and fear*, with hope being much stronger, but fear by no means entirely dispelled.

### A New Economic Order in Europe

The overriding goal in assuring security is to create a climate in which prosperity, human rights and democratic freedoms can flourish in all of Europe. But the transition to democracy and tolerance is exceedingly difficult in conditions of extreme economic adversity, where the pie of prosperity and opportunity is smaller, and less easy to divide.

If the West "won" the Cold War, it was not in order to leave its first victims, the peoples of the Soviet empire, abandoned and hopeless at the very time when they seek to embrace western values and prosperity. The enterprise of helping rebuild the former Communist world is an even