

**TORONTO I/ONTARIO  
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Discussion in Toronto encompassed the range of issues and had several major focusses: the role of military expenditure on debt, the role of youth, public opinion and open debate in elaborating all dimensions of the Disarmament/Development issue which was generally (but not universally) viewed as a fundamental but complex issue, the role of international law as well as that of the UN system as a whole and the role of Canada -- in the articulation of policies domestically, in the establishment of an international example and in bridging the debate on the issues internationally and within the different communities in Canada. There was also some skepticism expressed on the relationship between Disarmament and Development as being too simplistic.

In assessing the conceptual link between Disarmament and Development, there was some difference of opinion regarding the a priori validity of the linkage. For example, it was suggested that the linkage might be made between development and defence -- thus focussing on military expenditure and the nature of security in a more realistic fashion. This could also be expressed in an examination of the relationship between conflict and development which would place the focus more appropriately on the question of military spending in the Third World an area which, coincidentally, experiences most conflicts and wars. As well, misgivings were expressed about the relationship on moral grounds ie. that development might somehow be held hostage to disarmament.

In discussing the Disarmament/Development relationship, it was also noted that the terms themselves lacked clear definition. It was suggested that Canada might contribute to the Paris conference by working to advance consensus definitions of disarmament, development and security.

Concern was also expressed that focussing on the link between disarmament and development might invoke the tendency to lecture other less advantaged countries who cannot afford their military expenditures -- it could place the developed countries in a somewhat paternalistic position.

Conversely, many saw a direct and irrevocable linkage between the two issues. They expressed some concern about the stress being placed on the complexity of the issue -- for some the linkages were clear.