

- improve international co-ordination of humanitarian assistance; and
- develop bilateral and multi-lateral arrangements for regulating international migration.

Into the Future

In the years to come, there can be no doubt that there will be high expectations by the international community for an active Canadian presence and involvement. Canada is committed to a global foreign policy with priority given to its key bilateral relationships. Assistance to the countries of the former Soviet Union and Eastern and Central Europe will be intrinsic to Canada's participation in the G-7. Canada's ongoing development assistance efforts will be challenged by emerging issues of importance, including environmental demands.

Indeed, Canada's foreign policy will prove challenging, particularly given the priority of continued fiscal restraint. The focus, tools and instruments of foreign policy may have to be fine tuned and adjusted. But this will always be done in accordance with the values that Canadians hold dear — a love for democracy and a respect for human rights and the rule of law. In the words of Canadian Prime Minister Brian Mulroney, "There is no map to the future, no instruction book to the new world order — we have only our values and the hard-earned lessons of the past to go on." 🍁

Major Foreign Policy Conference in Toronto

Some 250 people gathered in Toronto at a conference entitled "Canadian Foreign Policy: Has Canada Made a Difference?" on December 10 and 11, 1991.

The date of the conference was chosen deliberately to mark the 60th anniversary of the Statute of Westminster — the British law that formally recognized Canada's independence in international affairs. For two days, Conference participants examined how Canada has made use of that independence and how Canadians can make a difference in the years to come.

The Keynote Address, by the Honourable Barbara McDougall, Secretary of State for External Affairs, set out Canada's foreign priorities for the 1990s. Mrs. McDougall said that Canada will focus its foreign policy on strengthening co-operative security, creating sustainable prosperity, and securing democracy and respect for human values.

Other speakers and commentators included David Bercuson (University of Calgary), Francine Pelletier (La Presse), J.L. Granatstein (York University), Janice Gross Stein (University of Toronto), Ivan Bernier (Centre québécois de relations internationales), Jeffrey Simpson (The Globe and Mail), Pamela Wallin (CTV), Margaret MacMillan (Ryerson Polytechnical Institute) and Arnold Smith (former Secretary-General of the Commonwealth of Nations). Leading foreign policy specialists from Canada and around the world took part in the proceedings.

The Conference attracted participants from all parts of Canada, as well as a strong contingent of foreign policy experts from around the world,

including the United States, France, Japan, Australia, Russia and Egypt. Particularly noteworthy was the large number of student representatives — the foreign policy practitioners of the future — who attended.

The consensus among those present was that Canadian diplomacy and diplomats had indeed made a difference over a broad range of issues and in a multitude of international arenas. Canadians had helped shape multilateral institutions such as the United Nations,

country is regarded internationally as a model of civility, diversity and democracy.

The Centre for Foreign Policy and Federalism of Waterloo and Wilfred Laurier Universities, the Canadian Institute of International Affairs, le Centre québécois de relations internationales, the Canadian Committee for the History of the Second World War, and External Affairs and International Trade Canada were congratulated for their initiative in co-sponsoring the Conference, which was



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the Commonwealth, La Francophonie, NATO and the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT). They had worked tirelessly to further the important causes of disarmament, anti-apartheid, development assistance and peacekeeping. They had developed real expertise in difficult technical areas and deployed it with skill and generosity. They had acquired a reputation for tenacious and imaginative statecraft. Observers from outside Canada were quick to underline these achievements and to remind Canadians that their

One of the country's leading journalists, Jeffrey Simpson of The Globe and Mail newspaper, comments on Canada-U.S. relations.

designed to bring together the disparate parts of the Canadian foreign policy community and to stimulate debate about the present and future of Canadian diplomacy.