

This understanding is based on the recognition that we all share a planet and a common human identity. Our common purpose is to live in peace.

These high-level national initiatives can be reinforced by municipal twinning programmes. For these activities promote increased political confidence between East and West based on restraint, dialogue, contacts and exchanges. People in your own neighbourhood *can* make a difference.

In Moscow, Mr. Clark suggested some ways of managing both the spirit and substance of East-West relations by, among other things, maintaining open lines of communication and the simple habit of being present in each other's countries. He called for the recognition that:

“...authentic security is multi-dimensional and indivisible: political, economic and cultural – as well as military.”

The success of twinning programmes to date demonstrates the gains achieved in advancing global inter-personal relations. Twinning proves that people everywhere share many common interests and concerns and that differences and divergences in approach can be bridged through contacts and communication. It is through the development of human relationships at every level – from tourists to diplomats – that we will solidify and cultivate the bonds of empathy that universally join us as members of the human family.