

Many believed that a better understanding of the moral/ethical dimensions of the issue and Canada's role therein were a necessary prerequisite to broadening the discussion. The role of public education in developing global citizens, exploring these issues and preparing children for a life of cooperation and peace were seen as fundamental to the discussion. It was clearly people's thinking that needed to change and evolve -- hence the emphasis on education.

In discussing the relationship between militarism and underdevelopment, several people expressed concern about planned development programmes in the Atlantic region. Citing the examples of Litton, the frigate programme, the possibility of Thyssen in Cape Breton, they suggested that such "militarized" development might not be the best route for Canada to take in attempting to ease the chronic unemployment and development problems of this region or in other parts of the country. In criticizing what was termed a "deceptive model of development for the Maritimes", it was remarked that such high tech industries offer false promises of jobs. As well, it was suggested that inhabitants of the Maritimes were being "blackmailed" into participating actively in the global arms trade.

In examining "security" in the Canadian dimension, the need for security was recognized but the question was how it should be achieved -- what alternatives were there to the "militarization" of the Atlantic area. Some suggested that Canada had absorbed too easily U.S. definitions of security and thereby U.S. perceptions of threats to security.

Canada was urged to break from traditional U.S./East-West views of security, to re-examine the political reasons for NATO, to consider taking inspirational initiatives which might be difficult and indeed put us into conflict with the U.S. Canada was urged to continue and enhance its support of the World Disarmament Campaign.

Many were troubled by what they considered the "mixed message" emanating from the Government on arms control and disarmament matters. Canada was exhorted to show more vision and determination through its policies and actions, not rhetoric. Some of the contradictory signals included: SDI -- no government to government participation but no unequivocal denunciation of SDI in principle; export potential of the LLAD system and Canada's professed concern about militarization; Prime Minister Mulroney's St. Francis Xavier speech with its pledge of peace as the