

society, which they consider bypassing the legitimate actors and processes, i.e., states and the traditional inter-state system. The UN system already has made strides in incorporating civil society into its policy-making process, but this could be built even further.

In advancing the human security agenda internationally, increasing emphasis is put on 'coalitions of the willing': like-minded coalition partners which may include states, NGOs and other international organizations. Where possible, the UN has begun to rely on these: they are both useful and necessary.⁸ These partnerships benefit from the greater knowledge and interest of the regional organizations while addressing their lack of resources through UN funding. When and how successful 'coalitions of the willing' are depends on the issue, area and state-to-state interests. Canada's initiative, growing out of the *Lysøen Declaration* with Norway, to create a 'Human Security Network, involving eleven countries and nine prominent NGOs and international organizations', could be another very useful vehicle for a global human security agenda.⁹

In brief, the possibilities for advancing human security within the Security Council were considered somewhat limited. One exception to this was the possible use of the Genocide Convention from which the Security Council might draw legal authority to intervene in cases of genocide. Human security has a more receptive audience in the broader UN framework due in part to the General Secretary's support and to 'coalitions of the willing'. Prospects for implementing the human security agenda would be improved with reform of the UN institutional machinery, particularly in the area of conflict prevention.

7. Human Security and International Law

It was argued by one international law expert that, over the last fifty years, international law concerning human rights generally, and humanitarian intervention specifically, has laid down a strong legal framework within which the political agenda of human security may find important lessons and develop. In other words, the political project represented by the human security agenda may be built on the already existing precedents within international law.

It was pointed out that a fundamental tension of the UN Charter was the conflict between the rights of territorial integrity, sovereignty and non-intervention on one hand, and

⁸ See for example: "An Agenda for Peace: Preventative Diplomacy, peacemaking and peace-keeping" (Report of the Secretary-General pursuant to the statement adopted by the Summit Meeting of the Security Council on 31 January 1992; A/47/277-S/24111, 17 June 1992.); also, "Supplement to an Agenda for Peace: Position Paper of the Secretary-General on the Occasion of the Fiftieth Anniversary of the United Nations" (A/50/60-S/1995/1, 3 January 1995). The Supplement talks at some length about coordination, the trend towards the establishment of informal groups of Member states to support the work of the Secretary-General, and cooperation with regional organizations in five areas: consultation, diplomatic support, operational support, co-deployment and joint operations.

⁹ *World View*, 'Special Edition', Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade, September, 1999, p. 3. (www.dfait-maeci.gc.ca/canada-magazine).