

The NATO proposal has three essential features: it embodies openness; it is effective; and it is workable. Open Skies is not a mere symbolic gesture. It can be a path, one among many, to a new era in East-West relations.

Real openness -- that means all territory being open to observation, consistent with safety.

Effectiveness -- that means openness even at night, or on cloudy days, and that means the right to use any technology that will do the job, understanding that these devices can be inspected by the country being overflown.

Workability -- that means working out practical arrangements for national overflights. No unwieldy new bureaucracies are needed. If countries want to share resources, that would, of course, be fine. If they want to fly their own unarmed aircraft, planes they have been trained to use, that is also fine. Flexibility is the key.

We have proposed a concept for the future. It is not just a bloc-to-bloc idea. Indeed, we are prepared to expand the regime to all 35 CSCE states once the regime has been established. In ten years, the regime may be finding uses that we cannot even imagine today.

### Conclusion

Open Skies is a test of our willingness to cooperate in building a new and better world for ourselves and our children -- a stable and predictable security environment that allows each nation to pursue its own destiny in peace, without fear of aggression or intimidation, an environment where dangerous capabilities are controlled and fears alleviated.

Together, we must seize this rare opportunity to remodel the political and strategic architecture of the New Europe.

As I said in Prague last week, if 1989 was the year of sweeping away, 1990 must become the year of building anew. As we enter the last decade of the twentieth century, we are already tearing down the walls that have so long divided us. And, as those walls go down, new and enduring security arrangements should go up in their place. Open Skies and CFE can do the job.

Now is the time to put them in place.