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difficulties, found a way to live together while other nations tore themselves apart and imposed monolithic, centralized mythologies on themselves."

*Cultural affairs are a pillar of Canadian foreign policy.*

Cultural affairs, in addition to politics and the economy, are one of the pillars of our foreign policy.

- Canadians want to highlight their achievements internationally and to contribute to cultural exchanges and dialogue. The Government is studying very closely the recommendations of the Special Joint Committee with regard to further developing strategy to encourage creative processes and to improve the production and distribution of Canadian cultural products at home and abroad. This is also true for educational activities and industries.

Strategy will have to evolve with the full co-operation of the provinces, certain private organizations and, above all, Canadian artists and creators, to promote their access to foreign markets and publics. In short, we want to recognize the role played by artists and creators in disseminating Canadian values and diversity throughout the world, and to build a genuine partnership with them.

- The Government has already reversed a decision of the previous government to close the cultural services of some of our missions abroad. Cultural Services in Paris have been reorganized and now offer a dynamic showcase of Canadian cultural activities that is making a name for itself throughout Europe and the Francophonie.

Nevertheless, the Government is very conscious of the limits of its financial resources in this sector, as in others. Budgetary constraints oblige us to be particularly prudent with public funds. We will, therefore, have to work together with all of our partners in Canada to publicize our cultural assets abroad, and to promote our cultural industries and educational services. We will also implement the Government's strategy in this field as means become available to do so.

The Government recognizes the key importance of international higher education. We will work closely with the provinces, the private sector, universities, colleges and all interested stakeholders, to promote Canadian institutions of higher education to foreign students and to encourage the mobility of Canadian students through exchange programs and otherwise. This will help our students to develop a global perspective and to build networks of the decision-makers of tomorrow.