

Policy BRIEFS

Canada Wins UN Security Council Seat

On October 8, 1998, Canada succeeded in its bid to serve a two-year term on the United Nations (UN) Security Council starting January 1, 1999. Canada was elected on its first ballot with 131 votes; 177 UN member states were eligible to vote.

"This is a tremendous recognition of Canada's international stature by member states of the UN," said Mr. Axworthy. "By electing Canada to the Security Council, they have acknowledged Canada's solid international peace and security credentials. Canada's leadership on such initiatives as the anti-personnel mine ban, our work on the International Criminal Court, and our extensive history of participation in UN peacekeeping operations puts Canada in an excellent position to play an effective and constructive role on the



Council and help prepare it to meet the challenges of the coming century."

The Security Council is the world's paramount body for safeguarding and promoting international peace and security. One of Canada's main objectives during its term will be to include human security concerns in Council discussions. Such concerns include conflict prevention, peacebuilding and respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms. Canada will also work to make the Security Council more effective, transparent and responsive to the legitimate views of UN member states.

About this MAGAZINE

In a democratic society, public policy ideally reflects the will of informed citizens making their decisions on the basis of sound information. **Canada World View** is intended to contribute to that understanding.

There is no lack in Canada of excellent publications, both in print and electronic form, aimed at academic and other

experts in foreign affairs. In terms of subject matter and treatment, this magazine will fill a different niche. Its aim is to provide Canadians with a brief overview of current foreign policy issues and Canada's perspective on them.

Each issue will focus on a central theme of Canadian foreign policy — in this case, human rights. The publication

will also update readers on foreign policy news and report on Canadian initiatives, responses and contributions in foreign affairs. It will cover aspects of our relations with other nations, both on a country-to-country basis and within the framework of Canada's membership in international organizations such as the United Nations.

While this publication will fulfill the requirements of some readers, for those who want to delve deeper, we will supply, wherever possible, signposts to other sources.

The Editors



For more information

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N.B. Certain photos in this magazine have been cropped for space considerations.

DID YOU KNOW THAT...



Canada's Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade has **128 missions** and **29 satellite offices** around the world in major cities ranging alphabetically from Abidjan to Zagreb;

Canada is the only country in the world that belongs to the **Group of Eight Leading Industrialized Countries (G-8)**, the **Commonwealth** and **La Francophonie**;

the border between Canada and the United States remains the **longest undefended frontier in the world**, as it has been throughout the 20th century;

the founding **Director General of the World Health Organization**, Dr. Brock Chisholm, **was a Canadian**;

the Passport Office issues approximately **1 million** passports every year.

