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# World View

Special Edition

## HUMAN security

putting people first

Fall • 1999

**F**or more than two years now, Canada has advocated an international agenda that focusses on human security, responding to critical changes in our world since the end of the Cold War. Key among these developments is one troubling fact: security has increased

for the majority of states during this period, but for many of the world's people it has declined.

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As our world changes and borders become more porous, a new approach to security is required. To meet this crucial challenge, Canada has made human security a leading foreign policy theme. This initiative means taking the security of ordinary people as a central point of reference, rather than simply the security of territory or governments. A human security agenda means working to ensure that people need not fear for their rights, their safety or even their lives.

This special edition of **Canada World View** explores human security, reviews elements of Canada's human security agenda and invites public discussion of the issues.

It also takes an in-depth look at the creation and role of the International Criminal Court. Human security requires the replacement of a culture of impunity with a culture of accountability. It calls for a means of deterring the most serious atrocities commonly committed against civilians in modern conflicts. The Court is a prime example of how the international community can develop new norms and mechanisms for addressing threats to the safety and security of the world's people. ●—

## Conclusions of the Group of Eight (G-8) Foreign Ministers' Meeting Cologne, Germany, June 10, 1999



### Human Security Issues

The effective protection of people, both individually and collectively, remains central to our agenda. The G-8 is determined to fight the underlying causes of the multiple threats to human security, and is committed to creating an environment where the basic rights, the safety and the very survival of all individuals are guaranteed. We emphasized that crucial cornerstones of human security remain democracy, human rights, rule of law, good governance and human development.

We regarded the spread of small arms, the danger posed by landmines, international terrorism and transnational crime, drugs and infectious diseases, poverty, economic distress and oppression to be among the most serious threats to mankind. As effective action against these threats, the G-8 agrees to support:

- the protection of civilians and the safeguarding of the rights of children in armed conflicts;
- combatting illicit small arms proliferation;
- control of conventional arms transfer;
- implementation of the Ottawa Convention on landmines; and
- combatting organized crime, drug trafficking and terrorism, including by advancing the conventions for the suppression of terrorism financing and combatting acts of nuclear terrorism. ●—

## Interview with

Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy has been deeply concerned about the worldwide decline in people's security since the end of the Cold War. For more than two years now, he has tirelessly called for an international political agenda that includes the concept of human security.

**Canada World View** met with Minister Axworthy and asked him why it has become so important to include this concept in the conduct of international affairs.

### Canada World View

Minister Axworthy, you are a forceful advocate of the concept of human security. What drives your action?

### Minister Axworthy

I think the international community must deal with the strange contradiction we have seen since the end of the Cold War. While the end of the superpower confrontation has meant greater security for states touched by that rivalry, we have also seen an increase in the number of civil conflicts, often with large-scale atrocities. When states are secure, it clearly does not follow that people are secure. At the same time, globalization, while bringing many benefits, has also meant a rise in violent crime, the drug trade, terrorism, disease and environmental deterioration. We need to rethink how we define security. The human security approach says that the security of the individual is the yardstick to use.

### Canada World View

But many of these threats have existed for years, if not centuries. The history of humankind is a bloody one. What is different today that makes it imperative to address the issue?

# Minister Axworthy

Lloyd Axworthy talks to **Canada World View**

## Minister Axworthy

Civilian conflict is not new, but the increase in conflicts in the past decade makes rethinking our traditional approach imperative. And problems such as environmental deterioration, drug trafficking and international terrorism are new or growing, and affect us here in our own country. Canadians also travel a lot more than they used to, whether for business or tourism or study, and so our exposure to these problems is much greater than it used to be.

Add the fact that technology brings the graphic details of all this into our living rooms and you can see how, in an interconnected world, sooner or later the insecurity of others becomes our concern—and sometimes the cause of our insecurity. A human security approach is therefore not only desirable but increasingly indispensable. For Canadians, human security means a safer, less expensive and more receptive world. Our own security and prosperity require global stability.

## Canada World View

For our readers, can you define what is at the heart of the concept of human security?

## Minister Axworthy

It is, in essence, an effort to construct a global society where the safety of the individual is at the centre of international priorities and a motivating force for international action; where international humanitarian standards and the rule of law are advanced and woven into a coherent web protecting the individual; where those who violate these standards are held fully accountable; and where our global, regional and bilateral institutions—present and future—are built and equipped to enhance and enforce these standards.

## Canada World View

When you talk about enforcing humanitarian standards and holding those who violate them fully accountable, aren't you

advocating a policy of intervention in the affairs of a sovereign state?

## Minister Axworthy

No, human security does not create a "right to intervene." However, it does support the rights of populations affected by gross physical attack, coercive threats and intimidation. In the face of state-sponsored murder, appalling violations of human rights and the calculated brutalization of people, the humanitarian imperative to act cannot be ignored. In this situation, when other means of addressing the threats have been exhausted, robust measures (including military action) may be needed to defend human security. It is in this context that NATO's response to the conflict in Kosovo should be understood.

## Canada World View

This raises the issue of who determines when, where and how to intervene in a sovereign state. NATO was chastised in many quarters for its action in Kosovo. Many observers said that the decision about whether to intervene should have been left to the United Nations Security Council. What's your answer to these critics?

## Minister Axworthy

NATO's decision to act was not taken lightly. But the evidence of atrocities was undeniable. The problem with the Security Council is that it has not been as relevant as we need it to be in the very changed and very dangerous world in which we live. We need to consider how it must adapt to the new realities in order to protect people better. That is why Canada introduced the issue of the protection of civilians in armed conflict at the Council in February. We requested that Secretary-General Annan study the issue and make concrete recommendations about what the role of the Council should be to better promote the security of

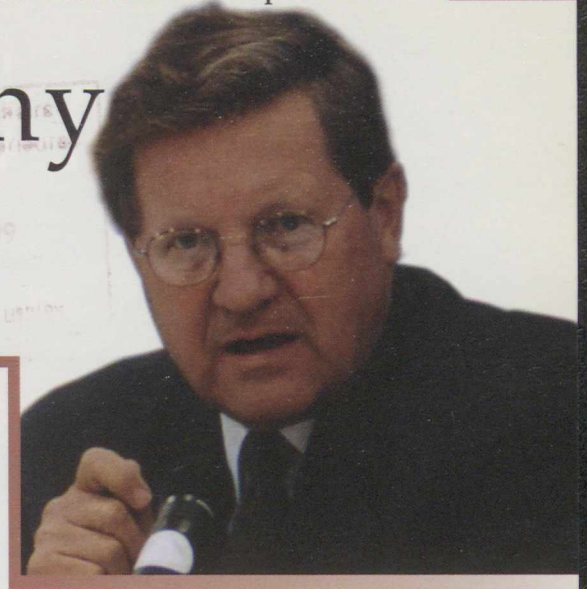


photo: DFAIT

people. We will be discussing his proposals this coming fall.

## Canada World View

Finally, you said that human security is a collective effort. Were you referring solely to states and international institutions or to a broader involvement?

## Minister Axworthy

To better advance human security, we need to develop innovative global partnerships linking governments, non-governmental organizations, churches, human rights agencies, the private sector and educational groups. This is what we did with Norway when we signed the Lysøen Declaration in May 1998, which established our partnership for action—and when together we initiated the Human Security Network, which involves 11 countries and 9 prominent NGOs and international organizations. Such coalitions between government and civil society helped make the campaign to ban anti-personnel mines a success and were instrumental to progress in adopting the statute of the International Criminal Court. They are harbingers of the future, demonstrating the power of good ideas and pooled resources.

In the end, we all have a stake in ensuring better security for all human beings in this world. ●

# International JUST



**W**ar criminals do not sleep so peacefully these days. What keeps them awake is the awareness that national sovereignty isn't the magic cloak it used to be. The 1990s have seen the creation of institutions with teeth, threatening to bring even the highest-placed offenders within reach of the prosecutors.



## THE INTERNATIONAL CRIMINAL COURT

The newest of these institutions is the emerging International Criminal Court (ICC). Last year, with strong leadership from Canada, the international community adopted a statute establishing the Court. The ICC will become operational once 60 nations have ratified the statute. This will mark several important new milestones in the development of international law.

For instance, the ICC will be the first *permanent* international court with the power to prosecute individuals for genocide, war crimes, crimes against humanity and (eventually) crimes of aggression. The Court will be able to act as well against crimes committed not only in wars between nations but in internal conflicts. Canada was instrumental in the achievement of a gender-sensitive statute, and in the inclusion of sexual and gender-based violence within the definition of crimes.

## INTERNATIONAL CRIMINAL TRIBUNALS

Making the headlines over the past five years have been two international war crimes tribunals created by the UN Security Council, one for the former Yugoslavia and the other for Rwanda. The two tribunals have tried, convicted and sentenced perpetrators of war crimes, crimes against humanity and genocide—including former national leaders—to jail, in some cases for life.

Canada has given support, including voluntary contributions of \$2.3 million for the Yugoslav tribunal and \$1 million for the Rwanda tribunal. Canada has also provided forensic and other expert assistance, and has amended its laws to permit the extradition of indictees.



**HUMAN RIGHTS LAW: A HALF-CENTURY OF PROGRESS**

Over the years, Canada has been a partner in the building of an elaborate network of international conventions, declarations and other instruments that

set out the standards for the protection of human rights. The list starts with the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, adopted by the United Nations in 1948, and includes:

# ICE:

## New institutions

## bring war criminals

## within range

## of justice

- the establishment of the Commission on Human Rights, the UN's main policy-making body on human rights issues, plus its subcommissions on the prevention of discrimination against minorities;
- the 1948 Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide;
- the 1965 Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination;
- the 1977 Covenant on Civil and Political Rights;
- the 1977 Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights;
- the 1979 Convention on Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women;
- the 1985 Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment;
- the 1990 Convention on the Rights of the Child, including two Optional Protocols currently being negotiated—one relating to the prohibition of the sale of children or child pornography, and another for the elimination of the use of children in armed conflict; and
- the establishment of the Commissions on the Status of Women and on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, the main UN policy-making bodies on gender equality and criminal justice respectively.



photos: CANAPRESS

Canada is also supporting the work of such bodies as UNICEF, the Office of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees, and the UN Special Representative for Children and Armed Conflict.

Of course, much remains to be done to stop war crimes and bring offenders to justice. Now, however, there is an international will along with the accompanying instruments to hold offenders accountable for their acts. ●

# Civilian Police Operations



## Canadian Participation

The first Canadian Civilian Police contingent on the eve of departure for Kosovo, July 30

**A**fter conflicts are over, military peacekeepers come into action to maintain peace, usually under the flag of the United Nations. In recent years however, the demand for civilian police has been growing as peace operations have expanded to assist in the return to civil society.

Canada has an international reputation for supporting democratic development and human security through monitoring and building the capacity of civilian police. Since 1989, Canadian police, whether from the Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP) or provincial/municipal police corps, have participated in missions in the Balkans, East Timor, Guatemala, Haiti, Namibia, South Africa, Western Sahara and now Kosovo.

In international peace operations, Canadian police monitor, train, advise and otherwise assist police forces to ensure that they become law enforcement agencies operating in accordance with internationally recognized standards, and with respect for internationally recognized human rights and fundamental freedoms.

### Some Statistics on Modern-Day Conflicts

The nature of violent conflict has changed in recent decades. Most wars now occur within states, and civilians account for 90 percent of the casualties. In the past 10 years alone, the number of casualties has doubled. Currently, about 1 million people lose their lives each year. Since 1945, more than 22 million people have died in small, medium and large-scale conflicts. Millions more have been injured or permanently disabled. Entire populations have been displaced and dispossessed. The high proportion of civilian fatalities is a direct result of strategies and tactics that deliberately target women, children, the poor and the weak.

An anti-personnel mine costs as little as US\$3.00 to produce but as much as US\$1000.00 to safely detect and remove once it has been deployed. Mines kill or maim thousands of people every year. Most of the victims are women or children. Tens of millions of mines remain hidden in over 60 countries.

In today's post-Cold War world, non-nuclear arsenals pose a significant threat to human security. Military small arms and light weapons are the arsenal of choice and often of necessity in current armed conflicts. In some countries, it is easier to obtain guns than basic food or medicine. An AK-47 rifle can cost as little as US\$6.00, and ammunition is plentiful and cheap.

According to the latest reliable figures available (1997), there are some 22 million active military personnel throughout the world, more than 37 million reservists and 7.5 million paramilitaries.

Between 1992 and 1996, exports of major conventional weapons by the 10 leading international suppliers (a group that excludes Canada) exceeded US\$110 billion. ●

### Canadian police officers currently serve in the following areas:

**KOSOVO** UN Interim Administration Mission in Kosovo (UNMIK) — 38 officers, to be joined by another 17 in September

**BOSNIA** UN International Police Task Force (IPTF) — 23 officers

**HAITI** UN Civilian Police Mission in Haiti (MIPONUH) — 24 officers  
Bilateral Technical Assistance Program — 22 police technical advisers

**GUATEMALA** UN Mission for the Verification of Human Rights in Guatemala (MINUGUA) — 5 officers

**EAST TIMOR** UN Assistance Mission in East Timor (UNAMET) — 3 officers

# Louise Arbour

## A profile in courage and determination

A commitment to human and individual rights, a readiness to be politically incorrect when necessary, and a dogged determination to get the job done regardless of obstacles—these threads are woven throughout the life and career of Louise Arbour. After serving as Chief Prosecutor of the International Criminal Tribunals for the former Yugoslavia and Rwanda from 1996 to September 1999, this distinguished jurist is now to bring her immense talents, courage and determination to the bench of the Supreme Court of Canada.

Born in Montréal in 1947, Madam Justice Arbour attended convent school and earned a name for good grades as well as feisty irreverence. After studying law at the Université de Montréal, she was called to the Quebec Bar in 1971 and to the Bar of Ontario in 1977. Thirteen years of academic work followed, first as Associate Professor of Law and later as Associate Dean at York University's Osgoode Hall Law School. During this period, Ms. Arbour wrote prolifically in both English and French on criminal procedure, human rights and civil rights. As vice-president of the Canadian Civil Liberties Association, she campaigned for voting rights for prisoners. Later, serving as counsel for the Association, she successfully argued that defence lawyers should sometimes have access to the sexual records of alleged victims of assault.

Ms. Arbour was appointed to the bench in 1987 as a judge of the Ontario Supreme Court. She later served on the Ontario Court of Appeal; among her judgments there, she ordered an Ontario school board to accept a disabled student in a regular classroom. In 1995, the federal government chose her to lead the investigation into alleged abuses of inmates at the Prison for Women in Kingston, Ontario.

In February 1996, the UN Security Council appointed her Chief Prosecutor of the



International Criminal Tribunals for the former Yugoslavia and for Rwanda. From the start, Ms. Arbour made it clear that she would pursue her mission unrelentingly. "There is no single issue more important to the survival of these tribunals than the actual arrest of indicted war criminals," she declared. "That will be my very top priority." In the face of pressure from Yugoslavian, Bosnian and Croatian authorities to stall the work, she stood like a rock.

In May 1999, she broke new ground by issuing history's first international warrant for the arrest of a sitting head of state—Yugoslav President Slobodan Milosevic—plus four political and military leaders on charges of murder and other crimes against humanity. Ms. Arbour made it clear that this was not a symbolic gesture. "As far as I'm concerned," she told the news media at the time, "this indictment is the first chapter. The next chapter is arrest and trial."

Louise Arbour is confident that the next chapter will be written in due course. Seven months after the Yugoslav authorities barred her from Kosovo, she flew into Pristina to inspect the sites of alleged atrocities. "I'm perfectly certain Mr. Milosevic thought he could keep me out of Kosovo," she says. "I believe he can't keep himself out of The Hague." ●

photos: CANAPRESS

Louise Arbour, centre, and team of forensic experts stop at the grave of a teenage girl allegedly executed by Serb forces in the village of Celine, in Kosovo.

# HUMAN Security

## New thinking and new actions for a new millennium

**H**uman security means safety for people from violent threats, such as organized conflict, gross violations of human rights, terrorism and violent crime. It also

means safety from non-violent threats, such as environmental degradation, economic crises, illicit drugs, infectious diseases and natural disasters. Once the nature of the threat has been identified, several tools can be used to promote human security. Some tools rely chiefly on persuasion. Others are more robust—for instance, sanctions or military intervention. Canada is acting to enhance human security in many different ways.



### Landmines

Tens of millions of landmines remain armed and hidden in more than 60 countries, creating thousands of new victims every year. In dozens of countries, they continue to hinder refugee resettlement, post-conflict reconstruction, and social and economic development.

Canada led the international effort to negotiate the Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention, signed in Ottawa in December 1997. The most rapidly ratified treaty of its kind in history, the Convention became international law on March 1, 1999. As of early August, 135 states had signed the treaty and 84 had ratified it. To support the universalization and full implementation of the Ottawa Convention,

Canada has created a \$100 million fund. This is being used to support Canadian action programs, such as mine surveys, mine clearance and victim assistance, in over 20 affected countries including Afghanistan, Bosnia, Cambodia, Mozambique and Kosovo.

### The International Criminal Court

The Rome Treaty creating the International Criminal Court was signed in June 1998. Canada played a central role in the creation of the Court, and is leading efforts to ensure that the ICC will be an independent and effective institution.

Chairing the committee that produced the final text of the Rome Treaty was Philippe Kirsch, Legal Adviser at the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade (DFAIT). He now chairs the commission developing the instruments to ensure the proper operation of the Court.

*(For further details on the ICC, see article on international justice, p. 4.)*

### Small arms

Small arms are the weapons of choice in modern conflicts. There are many serious consequences to the uncontrolled spread and excessive accumulation of small arms and light weapons: they fuel conflicts, increase civilian casualties, worsen human rights violations and make crime more lethal.

Canada has adopted a three-track response to the issue:

- development and promotion of measures to ensure greater restraint and transparency in arms exports;

- measures to counter the illicit trade in small arms; and
- peacebuilding, governance and practical disarmament measures.

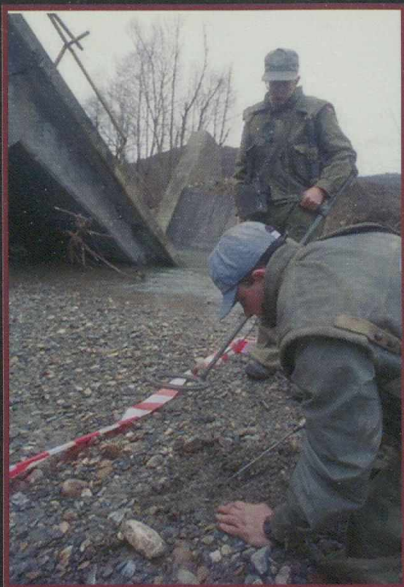
Examples of Canada's action on small arms include support for a program to promote the exchange of weapons for farming tools in Mozambique, and another program to exchange guns for consumer goods in El Salvador. In addition, Canada supports an initiative led by Mali to promote an arms moratorium in the region of West Africa.

### War-affected children

In the past decade alone, wars have killed more than 2 million children, disabled 4 million and traumatized 10 million. Estimates suggest that there are currently 300 000 children serving armies, whether as combatants, sexual slaves or messengers.

Canada is supporting the negotiation of an Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child, with the aim of raising the legal age of recruitment and participation in hostilities. Further, Canada is working to integrate child protection into humanitarian and peacekeeping operations. It supports the UN Special Representative for Children and Armed Conflict, as well as the NGO Coalition to Stop the Use of Child Soldiers.





### Combatting illicit drugs

The trade in illicit drugs and the abuse of such substances together constitute a threat to people, communities and states. They entail social and health costs, and undermine the stability of states, effective governance, respect for human rights and development.

Canada is actively involved in the fight against illicit drugs. It is leading a Hemispheric Dialogue Group on drugs and human security in the Americas, and it chairs the negotiations in the Organization of American States for the Multilateral Evaluation Mechanism on Drugs. Canada is also involved in several other forums; one is the Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies, with participation from agencies in Africa, Asia, Europe, Latin America and the Caribbean.

### Transnational organized crime

A major threat to human security is organized crime, including migrant smuggling, trafficking in women and children, trafficking in illicit firearms, corruption, and money laundering.

Through the G-8 leading nations' Lyon Group, Canada has worked to co-ordinate positions and promote negotiation of a Transnational Organized

Crime Convention and its protocols. The aim is to protect people by adopting measures for deterring and prosecuting criminals. Canada has provided the draft for a firearms trafficking protocol to the Convention; this is now the basis for negotiations.

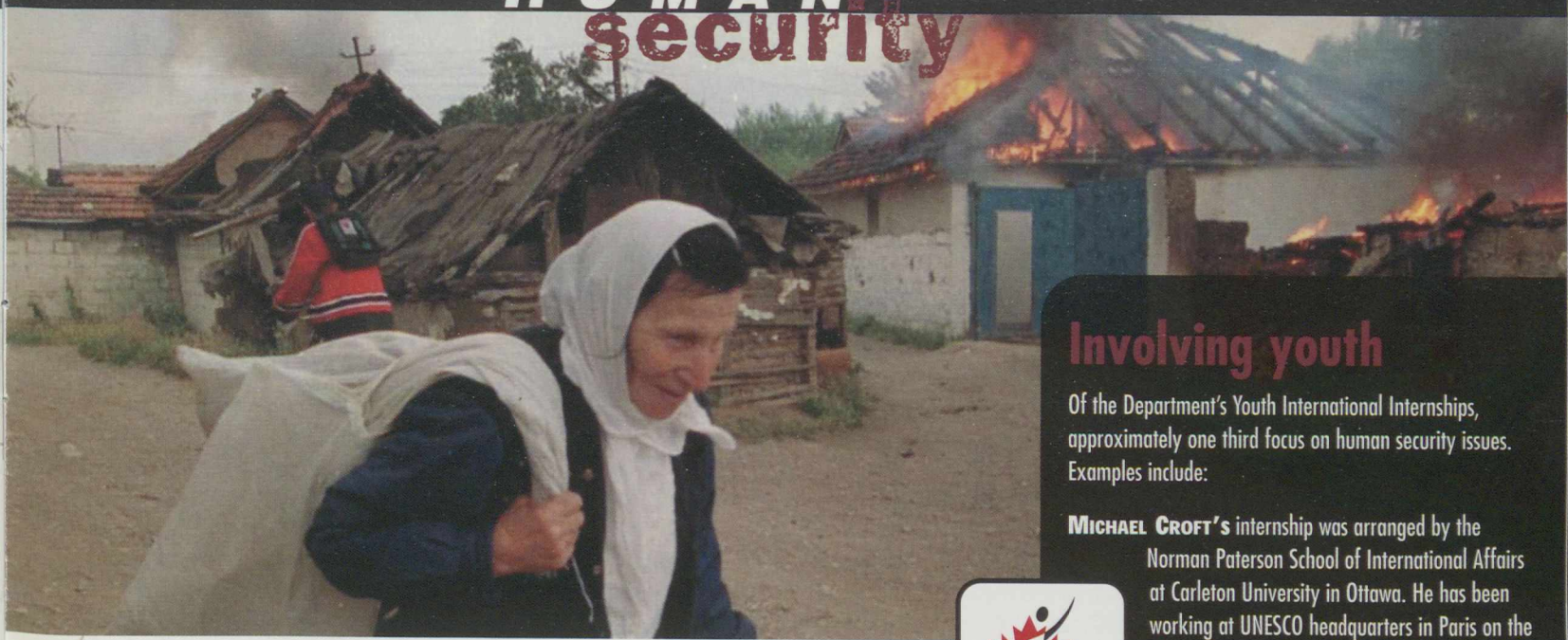
### Human rights field operations

Canada played a prominent role in the creation of the post of United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights in 1993. The Office of the High Commissioner is responsible in particular for human rights at the UN. Moreover, Canada works to ensure that peacekeeping and other peace support operations integrate human rights considerations. In order for Canada to be ready to provide qualified and professional personnel for field missions on short notice, the government supports the Canadian Resource Bank for Democracy and Human Rights (CANADEM), a stand-by roster of human rights experts.



photos: CANAPRESS

# HUMAN security



## Canada's partners

To be effective, human security initiatives must be developed and implemented through key partners, including institutions, governments and civil society.

One vital partner is the **United Nations Security Council**. As an elected member of the Council for the period 1999–2000, Canada is promoting a strong human security agenda. During our presidency of the Council last February, we sponsored a debate on the theme "The Protection of Civilians in Armed Conflict," and we asked the UN Secretary-General to prepare a report and submit recommendations, for study this fall.

Other important partners are the **United Nations General Assembly** and the **UN Specialized Agencies**, where Canada pursues a human security agenda. These include the High Commissioner for Refugees, the High Commissioner for Human Rights, the Secretary-General's Special Representative for Children and Armed Conflict, and the Special Representative for Internally Displaced Persons.

Still another partner is the **G-8**. Canada has led efforts to introduce human security issues and perspectives into the working agenda of the Group of Seven and Group of Eight summit meetings. At last June's meeting of G-8 foreign ministers in Cologne, the focus was on the impact of globalization, and human

security concerns were strongly reflected in the agenda.

On a bilateral level, in May 1998 Canada and Norway signed the **Lysøen Declaration**, establishing a partnership for action. The central objective is to provide coherence for human security initiatives, to strengthen them and build momentum around them. Under the agreement, the two countries are consulting and co-operating on landmines, the International Criminal Court, human rights, humanitarian law, the gender dimensions of armed conflict, small arms, war-affected children (including child soldiers), child labour, and Arctic and Northern co-operation.

Broader in scope is the **Human Security Network** initiated in September 1998 by Canada and Norway. This past May in Bergen, Norway, 11 countries and 9 prominent NGOs and international organizations participated in the first full meeting of the Network. It focussed on identifying challenges and approaches for addressing major issues, including landmines, the accumulation and transfer of military small arms, child soldiers, and adherence to international humanitarian and human rights laws.

## Involving youth

Of the Department's Youth International Internships, approximately one third focus on human security issues. Examples include:

**MICHAEL CROFT'S** internship was arranged by the Norman Paterson School of International Affairs at Carleton University in Ottawa. He has been working at UNESCO headquarters in Paris on the Culture of Peace Program, particularly to assist in integrating development, conflict prevention, peacebuilding, and issues of gender and ethnicity into the program. He has now completed his internship and is on contract to UNESCO.

**ALUKI KOTIERK** is from Igloodik, Nunavut. As arranged by the International Centre for Human Rights and Democratic Development in Montréal, this intern worked on Indigenous women's issues in Quito, Ecuador.

In an internship mapped out by CANADEM, **SEAN McNAMARA** worked for the International Children's Institute (ICI) in Montréal. He travelled to Sarajevo with a team piloting ICI's "Building Bridges" program in Bosnia. He helped develop classroom sessions for schoolchildren from the Sarajevo canton, and prepared presentations for use by ICI educators.

CANADEM organized 10 internships in Croatia with the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE). Activities included field monitoring, reintegration of refugees, democratization, police monitoring, human rights assistance, and reconciliation. Six of the interns were later hired by the OSCE. For example, **LEANNE BAYER** from Quebec worked in the field office in Karlovac. She is now a Democratization and Human Rights Officer in the Sisak Co-ordination Centre, where she is developing civil society projects.

For more information on the Youth International Internship Program, visit its Web site ([www.dfait maeci.gc.ca/interns/](http://www.dfait.maeci.gc.ca/interns/)) or call 1-800-559-2888 (toll-free from anywhere in Canada). ●—



## NGOs in action

photo: CIDA

### Spearheading the drive for

# HUMAN security



All the different measures required to build human security cannot become accepted international practice through government action alone. At every stage the driving force is needed of private groups and individuals operating within non-governmental organizations. NGOs played a key part in the process culminating in the adoption of the Ottawa Convention on Anti-Personnel Mines, and their efforts were recognized when the 1997 Nobel Peace Prize was awarded to the International Campaign to Ban Landmines, a coalition of over 1000 NGOs in more than 60 countries. In the negotiations that created the International Criminal Court in 1998, NGO participants included the Coalition for an ICC, Human Rights Watch and the Lawyers Committee for Human Rights.

In an address to the Hague Appeal for Peace in May, Foreign Affairs Minister Axworthy credited NGO action for recent progress in human security. He told NGO representatives at the conference, "Your energy, expertise and ideas are indispensable."

Following are prominent examples of NGO-government collaboration supported by Canada.

The **COALITION TO STOP THE USE OF CHILD SOLDIERS (CSC)** is working for the adoption of, and adherence to, national, regional and international standards (including an Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child) prohibiting the military recruitment and use in hostilities of anyone below 18 years of age. Canada was one of the first countries to contribute to the CSC when it was founded in June 1998.

**These civil society institutions are often among the few functioning providers of human security in weak states wrecked by, or emerging from, internal conflicts.**

#### The **INTERNATIONAL ACTION NETWORK ON SMALL ARMS**

(IANSA) was launched at the May 1999 Hague Appeal for Peace. IANSA facilitates NGO initiatives to prevent the proliferation and misuse of small arms.

At Norway's Fafo Institute for Applied Social Science, the **PEACE IMPLEMENTATION NETWORK (PIN)** seeks to reinforce international assistance in post-conflict situations. It does so through thematic forums that explore policies and practices in support of the implementation of peace agreements.

The **WAR-TORN SOCIETIES PROJECT (WSP)** is an international initiative that seeks to help societies recover from war and build a sustainable peace. Established by the United Nations Research Institute for Social Development and the Program for Strategic and International Security Studies, WSP has carried out research and action projects in countries emerging from war.

The **CANADIAN PEACEBUILDING CO-ORDINATING COMMITTEE (CPCC)** is a network of Canadian NGOs, institutions, academics and other individuals working to shape policy for the non-governmental peacebuilding community. CPCC has assisted the Government of Canada in identifying gender, war-affected children and small arms as key human security issues that should inform and guide Canadian foreign policy.

Many NGOs working on human security issues receive funding and other support from the Canadian Peacebuilding Initiative, a joint undertaking of DFAIT and the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA). Recipients include:

- Project Ploughshares, sponsored by the Canadian Council of Churches and operated by the Institute of Peace and Conflict Studies;
- the Canadian Resource Bank for Democracy and Human Rights; and
- CUSO's Mozambique Arms for Tools Project, which seeks to recover and destroy weapons caches that pose a threat to peace. ●—

—UN HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR REFUGEES **Sadako Ogata**

# doctors Without Borders Canada

Aid for the suffering, whoever and wherever they are

In 1971, a small group of French doctors were winding up their work in Biafra, the devastated and famine-stricken scene of the bloody Nigerian civil war. Providing medical relief there had sometimes been a tragically frustrating job. The experience left the doctors determined to find a better way to respond to health emergencies. What they wanted was a way for physicians to minister to suffering victims, unhampered by political, economic and religious factors.

Out of that resolve came Médecins sans frontières (MSF), known in English as Doctors Without Borders. Today, this is the world's largest independent, international medical relief organization. MSF maintains 5 operational centres in Europe and 14 national sections throughout the world, including 1 in Canada. A Canadian, Dr. James Orbinski, is currently president of the MSF International Council, which has its headquarters in Brussels, Belgium.

The organization has a threefold mission. First, it supplies emergency relief in places where medical infrastructure does not exist or is unable to cope with the crisis. Second, it conducts medical research, mass vaccination and other public health programs in developing countries. Third, it serves as the voice of the afflicted, speaking out about the plight of the people it helps.

MSF's operating principle is to provide help to all who need it regardless of race, religion, politics or gender. Fulfilling that pledge requires a measure of sturdy independence. This is why MSF seeks donations from international agencies, private foundations and the general public.

The Canadian section of MSF has its headquarters in Toronto and regional offices in Ottawa, Montréal, Vancouver and Halifax. MSF Canada recruits physicians, nurses and support personnel for missions overseas. It also raises funds and works to keep the Canadian public aware of the situation of health crisis victims throughout the world.

Since 1991, over 500 Canadian MSF volunteers have served in Rwanda, Bosnia, Afghanistan, Cambodia, Liberia, Angola, Sudan, Sri Lanka, Colombia and elsewhere. They have responded to human-caused and natural disasters—everything from shooting wars and the collapse of civil order to epidemics, famines and floods. The Kosovo crisis brought the organization into action again. An MSF Canada team was on the ground in Pristina before the conflict broke out. As of May, the organization had dispatched three Canadian physicians to refugee camps in the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia for tours ranging from six weeks to six months. ●

To volunteer for service, make a donation or learn more about the work of MSF, visit its Web site ([www.msf.ca](http://www.msf.ca)) or contact the national office:

Médecins sans frontières / Doctors Without Borders  
355 Adelaide Street West, 5B  
Toronto, Ontario M5V 1S2

Tel.: (416) 586-9820  
Fax: (416) 586-9821  
E-mail: [msfcan@passport.ca](mailto:msfcan@passport.ca)



photo: MSF CANADA

## Jonathan Brock, M.D.

When 33-year-old Dr. Jonathan Brock arrived in the Balkans last April, technically speaking he was still a resident in family medicine at a Vancouver hospital. But in fact he was a veteran in the delivery of emergency medical services, thanks to six years of voluntary work with Doctors Without Borders Canada.

Between 1993 and 1998—before and after graduating from medical school—Jonathan Brock served overseas as a volunteer in five major crises in Mali, Somalia, Rwanda, Sierra Leone and Afghanistan. The tasks assigned to him were far from light. In Rwanda, he was involved in establishing a 200-bed hospital and helped with surgery. In 1996, after he received his M.D. from Queen's University, his first mission was to Sierra Leone to minister to the terribly mutilated victims of a civil war.

Now he was in the field again. Only weeks before the end of his residency, he was co-ordinating an international team of 45 MSF physicians at Brazde, also known as Stenkovec 1, the largest refugee camp in the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia. Their mission was to help Kosovar refugees.

At one point, he and his team had to provide care to more than 30 000 refugees ranging in age from newborns on up, with 10- to 40-year-olds constituting the largest group. The medical problems, he reported, were mainly upper respiratory tract infections plus high blood pressure, heart and lung disease, and other chronic ailments. Many refugees were also emotionally traumatized. It was a challenging assignment, said Dr. Brock in a recent interview, but he would not have changed places with anyone else.

**Human security is something that strikes a chord with the Canadian public and reflects long-standing Canadian values.**

—Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy  
JUNE 29, 1999

Canadians Call for

# HUMAN security Approach

**O**ver and over, from one end of the country to another, Canadians have called for a human security approach to foreign policy. Their views have found expression in the various activities of the Canadian Centre for Foreign Policy Development (CCFPD). In the Centre's annual National Forum and its frequent policy development roundtables, experts and ordinary citizens alike have recommended that Canada's foreign policy give attention to democracy, human rights, civil society, children, small arms and peacebuilding. They have advocated an approach based on fundamental

Canadian values: the rule of law, diversity and multiculturalism, respect for human rights (including women's rights) and democracy, civility, and a strong civil society. Meeting in Saint John, Montréal and Vancouver, the 1999 National Forum focussed on the UN Security Council. It recommended that Canada promote a stronger human security agenda inside and outside the United Nations. In Saint John, participants also recommended that human security impacts be monitored when the UN imposes sanctions on countries, such as Iraq.

Similar recommendations emerged from earlier National Forums. In 1996 the subject was peacebuilding; Canadians from across the country met in Winnipeg and recommended a human security approach to foreign policy. As elements of human security, the Forum drew attention to democracy, human rights and peacebuilding, and the Canadian experience with diversity and multiculturalism.

The 1998 National Forum focussed on the Arctic. It recommended that foreign policy promote human security. Academics and other experts drew attention to human rights, civil society and peacebuilding as key human security goals.

Further, at the Calgary Roundtable this past March 17, the 75 NGO, business, academic and other participants declared that human security is central to Canada's relations with other countries in the Americas.

The CCFPD has sought to respond to this broad public interest. With the aim of injecting the public's ideas into the development of human security and foreign policy, the Centre has brought together a wide range of Canadian and other experts to address specific human security issues. For example:

- Gwynne Dyer chaired a discussion on "The Future of Conflict," with participants including Canadian Bishop Remi De Roo and leading academics;
- Chris Smith (Kings College, London) chaired a discussion on "Small Arms," with participants including representatives of Interpol and the International Red Cross; and
- Ralph Daley (United Nations University) chaired a discussion on "Human Security and Water Conflicts," with participants including Stephen Owen (University of Victoria) and the engineering consultant firm of RV Anderson.

The CCFPD has also supported a number of studies on human security issues abroad. Titles include *Human Rights and Security in Mexico*, *Lessons of Yugoslavia* and *Managing Diversity—Ukraine*. In addition, the Centre has supported a wide range of roundtables, papers and conferences on child exploitation, small arms, gender, peacebuilding and civil society. ●—



Canadian Centre  
For Foreign Policy  
Development

Many of the Centre's more than 100 reports from public discussions and papers deal with human security issues and approaches to foreign policy. For more information, visit the CCFPD Web site ([www.cfp-pec.gc.ca](http://www.cfp-pec.gc.ca)), or contact the Centre by telephone at (613) 944-4150, by fax at (613) 944-0687 or by letter at the following address: Canadian Centre for Foreign Policy Development, 125 Sussex Drive, Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0G2.

# REBUILDING THE HUMAN SPIRIT:

## WHEN CULTURE SUPPORTS

# HUMAN Security

Canadian artists are joining international stars on the bill of the first major cultural event in postwar Kosovo and neighbouring areas. Such well-known names as Mikhail Baryshnikov, Bono, Elton John, Sting and Meryl Streep are slated to perform on September 10 in Skopje, Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, and on September 11 and 12 in Pristina, Kosovo. Also featured in the event are Canadians: a miner's choral group from Nova Scotia, called Men of the Deep; and Tribe of One, a Winnipeg-based group of four musicians, two dancers and two visual artists who integrate rock music, dance and painting live on stage with an art therapy approach.

Called "The Return," the International Festival of Music and Theatre is being held under the auspices of the Office of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees and UNICEF. Its aim is to support the rebuilding of Kosovo's cultural and educational community. Spearheaded by British actor Vanessa Redgrave, the Festival has received strong backing from the Government of Canada.

The story began in June, shortly after the end of the conflict in Kosovo. Then filming in Halifax, Nova Scotia, Vanessa Redgrave approached Foreign Affairs Minister Axworthy and sought Canada's support for the project. "Because of the major role it played in the worldwide campaign to ban landmines," she says, "Canada's human security agenda is well known on the international scene and is a natural fit for the humanitarian effort we are undertaking in Kosovo." She adds, "The reaction was instant and positive, and will go a long way in helping us reach our goal of aiding Albanian Kosovar children and young people recover their cultural spirits with the confidence that they have a future."

The Minister agreed to Ms. Redgrave's request and announced a contribution of \$200 000 to the event. The money comes from the Department's Children in Armed Conflict Program, which conducts music and art therapy throughout Kosovo, and from the International Cultural Relations Program. "The rebuilding effort must not only focus on bricks and mortar; we must also help rebuild the human spirit," says Mr. Axworthy. Noting that Canada was the first country to get behind the initiative, he adds that it is important for Canadian artists to play a major role on the international scene and actively help the Kosovars survive as artists and families.

This contribution is only a small part of the Children in Armed Conflict Program. Activities are currently under way in countries such as Albania, Bosnia, South Africa, Peru and Rwanda, as well as in Kosovo. Projects include organizing psycho-social therapy workshops for Kosovo refugee children and children affected by political violence in Peru, producing documentary films on the fate of children not only as innocent victims but as targets, and developing educational tools to help war-affected youth move toward "peace" and learn techniques for conflict resolution. ●



VANESSA REDGRAVE

photo: CANAPRESS

To learn more about the Children in Armed Conflict Program, visit the Department's Web site ([www.dfait-maeci.gc.ca/culture/children/menu-e.htm](http://www.dfait-maeci.gc.ca/culture/children/menu-e.htm)) or call (613) 996-3649.



photo: Wendy McAlpine

Winnipeg-based group Tribe of One

# HUMAN security

ON THE INTERNET

To learn all about human security issues, we suggest you start with a visit to the Department's Web site ([www.dfait-maeci.gc.ca](http://www.dfait-maeci.gc.ca)) and click on "Peacebuilding and Human Security" in the Policy section. From there, click on "Human Security." This will bring you to a number of policy documents, ministerial speeches, background information and links to other related Web sites, particularly the Office of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees.

For further information, visit the Web site of the Canadian International Development Agency ([www.acdi-cida.gc.ca](http://www.acdi-cida.gc.ca)) or that of the Canadian Resource Bank for Democracy and Human Rights ([www.web.net/~canadem](http://www.web.net/~canadem)). ●

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"The world can **NEVER** be at peace **UNLESS** people have **SECURITY** in their daily lives."

—Human Development Report, UN Development Programme, 1994

## DID YOU KNOW THAT ...

CETTE PUBLICATION EST ÉGALEMENT DISPONIBLE EN FRANÇAIS.

From 1990 to 1995 a total of **70 states** were involved in **93 wars**, which killed **5.5 million** people.

In the mid-1990s, known military spending was **US\$800 billion** each year, or **US\$145** per person worldwide. This is **30 percent** lower than in 1985, when the Cold War was at its height.

Most of today's wars are civil conflicts. More than **half** the wars of the 1990s lasted for over **five** years.

In **half** of the countries experiencing war, ethnic minorities represent from **10 to 50 percent** of the population.

According to the UN Human Development Index, **57 percent** of wars during 1990-95 took place in countries with **low** human development, versus only **14 percent** in countries with high development. The Index rates countries by their combined prosperity, health and education levels.

**For the Record: The UN Human Rights System** is an annual report that compiles and summarizes all human rights activity at the UN. It appears on the Web sites of Foreign Affairs ([www.dfait-maeci.gc.ca](http://www.dfait-maeci.gc.ca)) and Human Rights Internet ([www.hri.ca](http://www.hri.ca)). For the print or CD-ROM version, contact HRI at 8 York Street, Suite 302, Ottawa, Ontario K1N 5S6.

Over **200 000** children under **15** serve in regular and irregular armed forces around the world.



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