



Statements and Speeches

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CANADA'S RELATIONS WITH HUNGARY

Toast Delivered by the Honourable Mark MacGuigan, Secretary of State for External Affairs, at a Dinner Given in his Honour by Hungarian Minister for Foreign Affairs Frigyes Puja in Budapest, March 16, 1981

...In this visit, I welcome the opportunity of expanding the dialogue our two countries have conducted over the years. While we represent two different social systems and two different alliances, our relations have progressed and expanded without ambiguity, primarily because we have acknowledged those differences and thus reinforced our mutual respect.

This is not to say that we do not share common goals. Our two countries are strong proponents of peace and stability. This clearly implies that the sovereignty of all states be respected, that their security be assured and that mutual confidence be maintained.

These are in fact the premises on which the Conference on Security and Co-operation in Europe was established and which were to form the framework for *détente*. But, as recent events have demonstrated, this concept has proven to be very fragile.

Canada firmly believes that *détente* cannot survive when force or intimidation is used, no matter where it occurs. If we wish *détente* to be maintained, it is imperative that concrete steps be made to restore and enhance confidence. The time for mere declarations of good intentions has passed. It is now the moment to go beyond one's self interests.

I am particularly pleased to note that the relations between our two countries are expanding, even though their history is relatively short. The very fact that Hungary is the first Eastern European country I visit in my capacity of Secretary of State for External Affairs is a reflection of Canada's satisfaction over their excellent state.

Cultural and academic exchanges are becoming an important component of our exchanges. In this context, I am particularly pleased that Canada is participating in the celebration of Bela Bartok's centennial. I am confident that this association will bring about more frequent exchanges in the future. I might add on the cultural side that I was very pleased with Hungarian support in mounting the Forrestall painting exhibit. Mr. Forrestall's brother is a member of the House of Commons. It was a good show.

Our economic relations have not yet reached their potential. I address this particularly to you Mr. Trade Minister. It is true that we are relatively new trading partners but it is also true that there is now a strong desire on both sides for more fruitful forms of economic co-operation. Your very innovative economic policies, as well as your new five-year plan, have raised considerable interest in Canada. It is my conviction

tion that there is now a better awareness of each other's production capabilities and needs and that both Hungarian and Canadian firms can benefit from expanding bilateral foreign trade.

There are other areas of co-operation our two countries are exploring and I am confident that we will see major achievements in the future. Such achievements are essential in both the bilateral and multilateral spheres, and for the benefit of the people of our two countries.

It is with this conviction and hope that I invite you to raise your glass.