



**Internationalism Revitalized,
or "Pax Americana":
W[h]ither Canada?**

Group of 78 Annual Policy Conference 2005

- Background Materials -

September 16-18, 2005

Econiche House: 32 River Road, Cantley, Quebec J8Y 3A1

Conference Chair: Peggy Mason

Presentation of Conference Resolutions: Clyde Sanger

Conference Report Editor: Peter Meincke

Note - this is an active list of background materials on the 2005 Group of 78 conference themes. More links and articles will be added throughout the summer, up to the conference dates in early September. We regret that the conference budget does not allow complete translation, but links to equivalent sites in French for online resources are indicated wherever possible. .

Note - Ceci est une liste active de matériel d'arrière-plan pour les thèmes du congrès 2004 du Groupe des 78. D'autres liens et d'autres articles s'ajouteront au cours de l'été, jusqu'au congrès au début de septembre. Les articles sont présentés dans leur langue de publication, avec des liens aux traductions françaises lorsque disponibles

Overall Conference theme

**Internationalism Revitalized, or "Pax
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Conference Background

This year's dramatic conference backdrop is the 2005 UN Summit to review progress towards the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals, ongoing UN reform efforts including the Report of the High Level Panel on UN Reform and the response of the UN Secretary-General, 'In Larger Freedom', radical and retrograde proposals passed by the US House of Representatives, and Canada's own ongoing efforts to create an integrated international policy. The Conference will explore the constraints and opportunities for effective, progressive Canadian multilateralism at a time when complex global problems suggest the need for fundamental rethinking and longer term planning while our political processes, and particularly the need to manage Canada-USA relations, privileges narrower approaches.

The conference will centre on two interconnected themes that underlie Canadian international policy: (1) The challenge of revitalizing internationalism at the same time as we face deepening integration with the US in areas of vital national interest, and (2) Assessing Canada's Governance (domestic and international): Who is calling the shots - business or public interests? Can Canada's institutions sustain us? Underlying these two themes is the larger issue of where Canadians want to be in 10 years and, given current capacity and trends, of assessing whether we are likely to get "there".

The keynote speaker on Friday evening, the Right Honourable Joe Clark, will introduce the "constraints versus opportunities" theme, and offer his assessment of the state of Canadian governance, followed by three plenary panels on Saturday focusing on some of the key interrelated problems. A luncheon talk by Nigel Fisher, Executive Director of the UN Office for Project Services, will supplement the panel discussions with a perspective on the unique role and value of the United Nations - and the immense challenges and threats it currently faces - from a very experienced and respected Canadian of longstanding service to the Organization.

Panel One will focus on the "Institutional and Political Impediments to Meeting the Environmental Challenges of the 21st Century". This panel will not only discuss the roadblocks to effective action on environmental issues, but ways the government of Canada and Canadian citizens can effect institutional change to circumvent them.

Panelists: Ralph Torrie is an expert in the field of energy and environment with 28 years of entrepreneurial and consulting experience that includes hundreds of initiatives in research, business development, and advocacy. He is known for combining visionary thinking with rigorous analysis and has made original and important contributions in the field of sustainable development.

James Bruce is an environmental consultant with extensive experience ranging from Canadian Assistant Deputy Minister of the Atmospheric Environment Service, to Director of Technical Cooperation and Acting Deputy Secretary-General of the World Meteorological Organization, Geneva. From 1990-94, he served as Chair of the UN's Scientific and Technical Committee for the International Decade for Natural Disaster Reduction. Between 1992 and 1997 he was Chair of the Canadian Climate Program Board, Co-chair of Working Group 3 (Economic and Social Aspects) of IPCC, and Member of the Commission for Geosciences, Environment, and Resources, U.S. National Research Council. He is author of several books and numerous papers and presentations on climate, water, natural disasters and related issues.

A second panel, "Common Security, or Global Military Dominance: The Management of Outer Space", will examine how we might take concrete and urgent action to build on the key principles of the 1967 Outer Space Treaty to create common security for all states in Outer Space and what leadership role Canada might play to this end.

It is almost 50 years since the dawning of the space age with the Soviet Union's launching of the satellite, Sputnik. Although Outer Space is not yet weaponized, more states are using space to actively assist in military operations on earth. And the world's most powerful space-faring nation is on the verge of a dramatic change in its space policy to permit the deployment of anti-satellite weapons and space-based weapons systems. At the same time, commercial and other civilian uses of space are of enormous and growing importance and all space-faring states have emphasized the importance of international cooperation therein.

Panelists: Detlev Wolter is a German diplomat, international lawyer and engineer and the author of a forthcoming book on Common Security in Space and International Law. Erika Simpson is an associate professor at the University of Western Ontario with research interests in

International security, Canadian defence and foreign policy, NATO, and peacekeeping. Bob Lawson is head of the innovative Space Security Project at Foreign Affairs Canada.

We also hope to have a space scientist from the Department of National Defence as a resource person for our Discussion Group.

A third panel, "Trade, Investment, Property, and Economic Development: Getting the Mix Right" will address the conference themes from an economic perspective. We would like the panel to consider global socio-economic realities and opportunities, and within that context to suggest the best path for Canadians and Canadian policy.

Panelists: Michael Hart is a tough-minded economist, who has considerable experience in Canada-US relations in this domain. His most recent work at the Woodrow Wilson Institute has led him to consider the changing dynamics of the global economy and the implications this has for Canada. In particular he has been examining the increasing convergence in the economy of the public and private sector, including business and civil society.

Melissa Powell, a Canadian working in the United Nations Global Compact Office, will provide a perspective on international institutions and their impact on global and local economies. We will examine the Global Compact, its successes, obstacles and challenges - including case histories. Without an international regulatory framework such as the WTO's, how far can it go? What are the factors that make buy-in "good for business" vs. "good for communities and individuals"? What is its impact on poverty and economic development? for Canadians? for the rest of the world? Do the "big guys" always win? or is it truly "win-win" for the "little guys" as well? Does buy-in trigger beggar-thy-neighbor responses? What is the rational argument that persuades skeptics to buy-in?

Each panel will then be addressed in one of three concurrent discussion groups, tasked with developing recommendations for the final plenary. To ensure coherence and follow up from the Plenary Panels through the Discussion Groups, the same moderator for each of the respective panels will chair the associated Discussion Group and be responsible for "shepherding" the resolutions through to the final plenary.

Panel: Fiddling while Rome Burns: Institutional and Political Impediments to Meeting the Environmental Challenges of the 21st Century

Can Industrial Civilization Survive the Age of Oil? *by Andy Clarke*

Panel: Common Security or Global Military Dominance: the Management of Outer Space

Article on Weaponization of Space *by John Polanyi*

iPanel: Trade, Investment, Property, and Economic Development: Getting the Mix Right

News release July 15, 2005: Global Compact Members Disclose Actions Supporting Good Corporate Citizenship

Useful links to other web sites:

- Canadian Pugwash group <http://www.pugwashgroup.ca/>
- Project Ploughshares <http://www.ploughshares.ca/>