

RENEWING MULTILATERAL INSTRUMENTS: CANADA AND PEACEKEEPING

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INTRODUCTION TO INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

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Introduction

Peacekeeping is deeply entrenched in Canadian culture, and what it means to be Canadian. Even so, it is difficult in this day and age to maintain this ideology because of the constant world conflict. It is because of this conflict that we, as Canadians, need to support peacekeeping and the United Nations in peacekeeping efforts. This makes it poignant for Canadians to take aggressive action towards building and maintaining peace throughout the world. As a result of our current world situation, this foreign policy paper will take a broad look at how Canadians can adjust our foreign policy to make peacekeeping better and improve Canada's relations to the United Nations. We will do so by analyzing different aspects of peacekeeping, and what Canada brings to the peacekeeping table.

Rapid Deployment of Troops

One of the major issues surrounding the United Nations peacekeeping force is that of rapid deployment. A situation can escalate or alter very quickly, and it can cause great difficulty if the peacekeeping troops are not deployed in a reasonable amount of time. Since the end of the cold war, the need for peacekeepers has greatly increased. Because of influx in peacekeeping missions it makes it even more difficult to deploy peacekeepers with great efficiency. With the swell of missions also comes the difficulty of increased mandates. No problem is black and white, but with the increased intensity of these undertakings the United Nations has responded with mandates that have a larger scope. They involve not only a larger amount of peacekeepers; they involve a greater assortment of United Nations peacekeeping personnel. Along with traditional peacekeepers, civilians are being deployed to aid in these operations. The rapid deployment of civilians is as difficult and complex as deploying military personnel. This adds an extra complexity to the rapid deployment of any mission. Another road block in the rapid deployment of peacekeepers is of course bureaucracy. The Department of Peacekeeping Operations (DPKO), which was created in 1990, is still working out some of its discrepancies, and is forever trying to make the rapid system of deployment more efficient. (<http://www.dfait-maeci.gc.ca/peacekeeping/actors-en.asp>)

To fully have an efficient rapid deployment system there are four main pieces that have to be in place. First of all, you have to be able to gather troops hastily for deployment. This will be discussed more in the following paragraphs, but the ability to have the resources and troops ready to be deployed within a reasonable amount of time is paramount. (<http://www.dfait-maeci.gc.ca/peacekeeping/actors-en.asp>) “Second, the ability to conduct analysis and contingency planning. Third, the efficient and speedy deployment of forces on the ground, which requires, among other things, stream-lined logistics abilities. Fourth, the establishment of in-mission command and control, for instance through a rapidly deployable mission headquarters.” (<http://www.dfait-maeci.gc.ca/peacekeeping/actors-en.asp>)

One example of these discrepancies in the rapid deployment of troops was the United Nations force in Rwanda. One of the difficulties with raising troops quickly and effectively in this conflict was the fact that the Rwanda conflict came so soon after the conflict in Somalia. (Sens 224) Though the rapid deployment of troops in this circumstance was not the only issue (there were numerous others things that went a stray in Rwanda) but for this purpose the deployment of troops will be the focus. In October 1993, the United Nations Assistance Missions for Rwanda (UNAMIR) was created by the Security Council to help the implementation of the transitional government and to monitor the peace agreement. The United Nations petitioned for troops, but initially only Bangladesh and Belgium supplied troops; they each offered 400. It took another five months for the United Nations to gather enough personnel to fill the small mandate of 2,548 troops. (http://www.un.org/Depts/dpko/dpko/co_mission/unamirS.htm)

Because the situation with Somalia was fresh in the United Nations’ mind it made it even more difficult for them to deploy an efficient amount of troops to Rwanda even when they were desperately needed. (Sens 224) “The UN force commander, Canadian General Romeo Dallaire, has often argued that if he were given more troops and an appropriate mandate, he could have prevented the worst of the genocide.” (Sens 224) The United Nations actually reduced the amount of troops in UNAMIR. It wasn’t until after

the genocide that the United Nations decided to send more troops, and increase the size of the peacekeeping force. (Sens 224)

The situation in Rwanda, as well as other peacekeeping missions, is a tell tale example of why we need the efficiency of the deployment of troops to increase. If United Nations peacekeeping troops don't get there fast enough, the situation can elevate. Innocent people can die, and if we don't have the ability to send troops rapidly, and continue to send them efficiently if needed, we are costing people their lives. Not only innocent civilians' lives are at risk, but also the lives of peacekeepers. If there are not enough peacekeepers to fulfill the changing mandate, those in the field are left vulnerable and therefore more susceptible to injury and death.

Canada has been making great strides in trying to improve the swiftness of the rapid deployment of troops. In 1995, during the 50th session of the UN General Assembly, Canada unveiled an inquiry which dealt with the United Nation's ability to deploy troops rapidly: Towards a Rapid Reaction Capability for the United Nations. This study advised the United Nations to create a group of peacekeepers that could be called upon in a humanitarian crisis to deploy rapidly. It was also recommended to the United Nations that a headquarters should be developed to deploy these forces.

(http://www.dfait-maeci.gc.ca/canada_un/cdn_un-en.asp) With response to this proposal the United Nations has adopted 26 of the report's 28 recommendations. Canada is still pursuing the two mandates remaining: the Rapidly Deployable Mission Headquarters (RDMQ) and the vanguard force. Though the vanguard force was not put into place, the United Nations has created an alternative that fulfills most of the vanguard force's mandate, the Standby Forces High Readiness Brigade (SHIRBRIG). SHIRBRIG is used in emergency situations and is deployed before a situation becomes too extreme. The SHIRBRIG troops are under the control of their home country until the United Nations deploys them. (<http://www.dfait-maeci.gc.ca/peacekeeping/actors-en.asp>)

In a conference held in November 2001, in Ottawa called: Towards Rapid Reaction Capability for the UN: Taking Stock, some of these issues were discussed when dealing with the rapid deployment of troops. One of the issues that arose from this

conference was the difficulties involving SHIRBRIG. For this system to really be effective the United Nations has to have a vast amount of troops at hand. The amount of troops that should be accessible to the UN has to be high because in some circumstances countries may have other commitments for their troops during that time period. As always, in these types of situations, there are only a limited number of countries that wish to comply and provide troops. Because of Canada's limited amount of peacekeepers and military personnel, it seems like a perfect situation for Canada to step up. Even though we are already providing troops to SHIRBRIG, and supporting the United Nations in this venture, it seems prudent for Canada to focus more attention on SHIRBRIG. One of the prerequisites of SHIRBRIG is that the troops are deployed within thirty days and remain in the field for six months. After their six months are over, either the problem has diffused and there is no need to send more troops, or a new group of peacekeepers are sent to continue the mission.

http://www.unac.org/en/link_learn/monitoring/rapidreaction.pdf

This becomes a perfect place for Canada to use their resources to the best of their ability. Though we are a large country, we are not large in population, consequently have a limited amount of troops and civilians we can offer the United Nations for peacekeeping purposes. As stated throughout this paper, peacekeeping is part of Canada's heritage, and because of this we may be more willing to contribute to peacekeeping missions, as much as our resources will allow. If Canada focuses most of our peacekeeping resources towards SHIRBRIG, it would allow troops to be deployed quickly and effectively to a crisis, which in turn promotes Canada in a favorable light. SHIRBRIG troops are sent out, as stated earlier, to control humanitarian crisis and stop them from erupting. These countries are in crisis, peacekeepers are a sign of hope, and what would it say to the rest of the world if the first line of hope was Canadian peacekeepers. This would allow Canada the opportunity not to spread our troops too thin, and concentrate on one issue that we can excel at, while promoting our country in a positive light. It would be naive to think that the SHIRBRIG would only be made up of Canadians, we may need troops from other countries, but if it was primarily Canadian the impact would still be there.

Another issue that needs to be addressed on the Canadian side of rapid deployment is the deployment of civilian police, which is managed by the Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP). The RCMP responds to a request from the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade (DFAIT) to participate in a peacekeeping mission. Even once the request is made, the RCMP has to see if there are volunteers and whether or not they can be spared from service. Because there is no organized structure to deploy civilian police it can take eight weeks or more for the officers to reach the conflict. This is by no mean productive. As we have learned in past conflicts, if you reach a conflict too late it can be disastrous. It seems at this point in time Canada needs to create a system that is more productive to deploy civilians, which includes the civilian police. In this report, Towards Rapid Reaction Capability for the UN: Taking Stock, it gives a costly solution to the problem. It involves a budget of approx. 32 million to deploy 200 civilian officers. Though costly, it would reduce the deployment time from eight weeks down to 48 hours, which is considerable. With this plan you would be able to deploy civilian officers, military personnel, and judicial officers and corrections Canada officers in unison.

(http://www.unac.org/en/link_learn/monitoring/rapidreaction.pdf) Allowing the whole peacekeeping team to arrive, hopefully all together, may save on transportation costs but more importantly it will allow the team to work together and be more effective in their mandate. Though this plan may not be perfect and may not be able to be worked into the budget, if this or a similar plan is implemented it will cause the Canadian peacekeeping arsenal to be more efficient and affective; which is one of the major concepts we are trying to achieve.

Overall, the rapid deployment of peacekeepers is not only an issue that Canada has to address; it is an important issue for the United Nations. The bureaucracies involved in organizing a peacekeeping mission are long and convoluted, but if we can make things more efficient at our end, and urge the United Nations to do the same; we have taken giant steps in the right direction. Canada believes in peacekeeping and its positive effects, hopefully the steps we take will in turn cause the rest of the world to follow.

Our Evolving Mandate

Once the Security Council has requested Canada's participation on a peacekeeping mission, we evaluate the situation and make our decision based on our mandates of involvement.

Our recent guidelines include:

- Authority from the Security Council
- The conflicting parties agree to the involvement of the UN and of Canadian peacekeepers
- The goal is conflict resolution
- The mission is feasible
- Limited risk to troops
- Canada's relations with the country or region are positive
- Canada has the capacity to respond

(<http://www.dfait-maeci.gc.ca/peacekeeping/menu-en.asp>)

Recently the dynamics of peace support missions have changed due to the increased involvement of non-state actors in crisis situations. In order to adapt, Canada has updated its mandate to include the deployment of skilled professionals such as; police, doctors, judges, tradesmen and engineers, who are registered with CANDEM. These civilians are added to the mandate which already includes military staff. Canada has also accounted for the increase of missions since the cold war and the decision must be made whether to disperse the personnel and accept more missions; or to focus on fewer, strategically selected missions. We suggest that Canada chooses the most pressing and current conflicts and concentrate its efforts on resolving those efficiently in order to have a higher success rate for peace operations. Canada is currently engaged in sixteen PKO's globally. Each mission brings its own unique set of challenges, whether it is disarmament of mines in Cambodia, or providing police training in Haiti. There is no doubt that Canada has amicable ties with Haiti, a member of La Francophonie, and our efforts are valued by Haiti as well as the UN. But, how can we measure which mission is more

pressing then another and by what means do we measure the urgency to intervene?

Certainly extreme cases such as genocide will merit our attention since genocide is a crime against humanity and an extreme case. Our efforts in the Balkans and also in former Zaire are proof of our commitment to improving human rights and maintaining an international standard for human rights. Secondly, we must aid those countries that have become our bilateral and multilateral partners in international organizations for we have made commitments of membership. As a member of the OAS, we have participated in operations in Guatemala, El Salvador and the Dominican Republic. Our involvement in the Balkans fortifies our commitment to NATO's obligations and as previously mentioned our aid to Haiti was a commitment to support the Francophonie states. A third factor that should influence our decision to participate in a PKO is the political and diplomatic benefits that are linked with our involvement. In 1957 our involvement in the resolution of the Suez crisis awarded Lester B. Pierson, the Canadian Prime Minister, who was awarded a Nobel Peace Prize and international recognition for his contribution to Canada's peace efforts. Our contributions towards the rebuilding of Iraq in their demilitarized zones help to strengthen alliances with our closest neighbour and most valuable trade partner, the United States. By wisely choosing operations by order of urgency, partnership and political strategy, we can avoid excess spending by limiting our involvement to missions that will be mutually beneficial to both the host nation and us. This will create a higher demand for our reputable aid, and its increase in value will allow Canada to negotiate terms with the UN and therefore be able to demand higher salaries for our peace troops. Currently our troops receive salaries from the Canadian government except for a few professionals such as military officers who receive

additional funding from the PKO's overall budget. (<http://www.acdi-cida.gc.ca/index.html>)

Peacebuilding

Another aspect of peacekeeping is peacebuilding. Peacebuilding has a larger scope than the former conflict resolution mandates of previous decades. Peacebuilding involves stabilizing the country post-conflict by providing security, education, and support for human rights organizations. Canada provides security for host countries by remaining after the crisis is over and reconstructing the area through the implementation of development programs, consulates and human rights programs. Canada also assists with the reconstruction of internal and political systems of the country through development agencies such as the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA). Although it is the UN who authorizes these missions, they cannot be as effective without the help of regional, sub-regional and international organizations. (<http://www.acdi-cida.gc.ca/index.htm>) Canada's goal is to increase diplomatic relations with war-torn countries, such as our current work in Afghanistan, in order to evolve with the multilateral trend of post-war support. Operation ACCIUS and ATHENA, are both missions situated in Afghanistan, are two separate missions. These missions increase communication between Afghanistan and the UN and require the cooperation of regional organizations. Since its first peacebuilding mission, Canada has called upon the help of regional organizations such as the African Union, the Economic Community of West African States and the Organization of American States, and Canada will continue to cooperate with other organizations during future peace missions.

Canada's Peacekeeping Actors

THE CANADIAN ARMED FORCES

Our Canadian peace troops are mostly derivative of the military from one of the three branches of the Canadian Armed Forces: the Air Force, the Navy or the Army. The Air force operates NORAD and components of the NATO Airborne Early Warning Force, as well as hosting training opportunities for other NATO alliance states because of our abundance in territory. The Canadian Air Force is in the process of upgrading aircrafts and improving technologies, and is working with the government to produce sources for funding. The Naval force provides our peace troops with transportation overseas and submarines for conflict surveillance. We currently rent a cargo ship for a substantial fee; therefore the Navy is working with the government of Canada to propose a plan to purchase our own cargo carriers for economic convenience and for a more rapid deployment of troops. The Army Reserve contributes the majority of personnel on peacekeeping missions and are of great value due to their discipline, intelligence and administration capabilities. Other sources of military troops include the Communication Reserve, the Supplementary Reserve, the Special Forces and the Canadian Rangers. The Government of Canada is committed to increasing the number of available manpower by twenty percent. (http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Canadian_Armed_Forces)

Although a primary actor, the military is not the only participant in Canadian peacekeeping. Elections Canada, Correction Services Canada, CIDA and many other organizations contribute troops, equipment and funding to our peacekeeping missions. The Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade, the Department of National

Defense and CIDA all have authority to deploy troops from the various sources. Our minister of Foreign Affairs performs the task of financial bargaining with the UN for Peace Support Operations, and it is the Cabinet who officiates our decisions.

The RCMP is not an international organization, therefore has no foreign policy mandates, however, it is working with the police department in order to establish protocol for future peacekeeping operations.

NORAD

NORAD is an aerospace warning and control organization of the United States and Canada. Its primary function is to detect and monitor man-made objects in space and over our airspace, in order to anticipate a missile or space attack. NORAD has adapted its focus to include combating aerospace attacks and drug smuggling. Recently, the United States has asked Canada to become partners in a missile defence program, in which NORAD will be upgraded to accommodate the program. The 1996 NORAD renewal states that both Canada and the US must agree to any changes in its function or design, and therefore Canada must make a firm decision on whether or not to support this program. Although our current missions are primarily located in countries incapable of competing in a nuclear arms race, one concern may be that our involvement in the MDP will tarnish our reputation as an advocator of arms control and the non-proliferation treaty. Our focus of the missile defence program, should therefore, continue to be oriented towards the diplomatic gain of a bilateral informational exchange with the U.S. and providing security for our country in the event of a possible strike. Our international

focus will continue to encourage disarmament and diplomacy whether or not we choose to participate in the MDP.

(Sens, Allan. The National Missile Defence Debate. Department of Political Science, UBC)(<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/NORAD>)

NATO

NATO is a defense organization that was formed after the Second World War in the event of an attack from Russia on Western European states. This allegiance was formed so that the North Atlantic states would have strength in numbers should a defensive strike be necessary. The NATO force was utilized to evacuate Serbs from Kosovo in order to allow Albanian refugees back into their homes during the time of the war in Kosovo. After much debate NATO threatened to target Serbian strongholds in the province of Kosovo if the leaders of both the Albanian and the Serbian groups did not settle the dispute and reach a consensus. Neither side showed signs of compromise and NATO, reluctant to follow through with its threat extended the deadline another month. NATO has been criticized for careless targeting of civilian monuments in Kosovo, however NATO used the targeting as a last resource after months of attempted negotiation. After the war, NATO was quick to reinforce the area with peacekeeping troops in an attempt to bring the refugees back home. Canada did support stabilizing efforts after the war and assisted the displaced populations of Kosovo to return home. Another strike against the NATO forces occurred on September 11th, 2001, and according to article 5 of the treaty, the attack was against all member states. Canada chose to fulfill NATO duties by cooperating with the US and allowing a portion of Canadian territory to be used by the

US for their aircraft. Canada also agreed to heighten security measures at border control. Canada has, however, maintained a firm stand for peace, by choosing to participate in the war only as a peacekeeper, and as a neutral servant of the UN. Canada's neutrality has helped us to effectively operate our peace missions and has distinguished ourselves from our aggressive allies. (<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/NATO>)

Risks and costs of peacekeeping to Canada

Consequences of peacekeeping in the past:

Physical Damages:

Costs can be measured in numerous ways, financial, emotional, etc. But the one that bears the most weight and is irreplaceable is the cost of a life. Canada has lost more than 600 soldiers due to peacekeeping; approximately 500 of them were lost in Korea, in 1953. (<http://www.lermuseum.org/ler/mh/1945topresent/risks.html>) The emotional and national attachment to peacekeeping in Canada is strong, and because of this attachment we are more than willing to supply troops, as much as our resources will allow. This has caused Canada to lose more soldiers than any other country that has been involved in peacekeeping missions. (<http://www.lermuseum.org/ler/mh/1945topresent/risks.html>) Countless more have been injured due to hostile fire, mines and vehicle accident or have fallen ill under the extreme conditions that they are exposed to. In addition to these damages, any sort of physical impairment sustained by active troops during peacekeeping missions can have a drastic effect on the rest of their military career. (<http://www.lermuseum.org/ler/mh/1945topresent/risks.html>)

Mental Damages:

One of the most destructive and undetected damages sustained by peacekeepers, soldiers in general, is the mental scars left behind once the missions are over. The psychological scars caused by being in a war torn country are life altering and can often

go undetected. Many Canadian soldiers have suffered from post traumatic stress syndrome after serving in peacekeeping missions and several have committed suicide as a result. The wounds will remain with them for the rest of their lives can originate from the fact that peacekeepers are observers. They are forced to observe the underbelly of society, to watch man inflict pain and misery on his fellow man and being unable to stop it. This is compounded by the fact that they are also in fear of losing their own lives.

(<http://www.lermuseum.org/ler/mh/1945topresent/risks.html>)

A Financial look at Canada's contributions to Peacekeeping:

Because of Canada's involvement in the creation of peacekeeping, we have consistently been an active member in peacekeeping missions and involved with the United Nations when dealing with these missions. Canada's financial contribution towards peacekeeping continues to be one of the largest amongst the member states, seventh overall. (<http://www.lermuseum.org/ler/mh/1945topresent/risks.html>) Canada's contribution of the 2004 United Nations regular budget was approximately 53.1 million Canadian. (http://www.dfait-maeci.gc.ca/canada_un/cdn_un-en.asp#04) "For the period 1 April 2003 to 31 March 2004, Canada's assessed contribution payments to UN peacekeeping operations totalled CDN\$77.8 million." (http://www.dfait-maeci.gc.ca/canada_un/cdn_un-en.asp#04) Canadians also make up a large portion of the staff at the United Nations. Approximately 4500 Canadians currently work for the UN, which make up an estimated five percent of all personnel. (http://www.dfait-maeci.gc.ca/canada_un/cdn_un-en.asp#04) Though we firmly believe in peacekeeping, it weighs heavily on our economy. We have military equipment that needs to be repaired and updated desperately. Without these updates and repairs our contributions to future peacekeeping missions will be severely effected.

Canada's Public Opinion:

Even though Canada's devotion to peacekeeping weighs heavily on our economy, Canadians continues to be supportive of our contribution to peacekeeping. We are proud of our peacekeepers and the reputation Canadians gain from our devotion to peacekeeping. Even though Canadians have lost more lives in peacekeeping missions

than any other member state, we believe that this is a necessary evil in the building and maintaining of peace.

This table reflects Canadian public opinion on specific issues:

Item - Importance of	% Very Important	% Somewhat Important
Working for International Peace	75	20
Having a Canadian Foreign Policy that is Independent from the U.S.	48	33
Participating in Activities of the U.N.	42	42
Work to Discourage Human Rights Violations	49	35
Importance of Membership in International Organizations —U.N.**	61	24
International Role of Canadian Armed Forces in Protecting Canada	57	21
International Role of Canadian Armed Forces in Peacekeeping	46	33
Sources of Canada's International Reputation* — Peacekeeping	32 very positive	38 positive

Sources: Gallup Canada Poll (1994) January 27, Gallup Canada Poll (1995) January, June, September, December and Reid, Angus (1997)

<http://www.ciaonet.org/isa/cae01/>

What can be done for the future?

Providing more psychological support to soldiers:

Once the peacekeeping missions are over and the soldiers return home there is little that is being done to aid the soldiers in their recovery. Peacekeepers return from seeing and experiencing things that we couldn't fathom to see or experience in our lifetime. They are suffering from not only physical wounds, but from stress and other post-war syndromes. It is Canada's responsibility to aid these soldiers through these times. Though this issue isn't as important as in other countries because we have free health care, it is still pertinent that these soldiers receive that proper care that they deserve. There should be systems in place not only to deal with the soldiers once they return, but also when they are in the field. Soldiers' psychological status should be checked on a regular basis in order to avoid serious mental illness. If a soldier's status seems to be serious, he/she should be permitted to leave the mission and his/her healing process should begin immediately. The healing process for any sort of mental damage is long and painful and the sooner we start a course of treatment, the better. These people have risked their lives for peace, it is important that we as Canadians recognise this, and give them the support that they need.

Keeping peacekeeping as a priority:

Throughout the international community Canada is held in high regard with respect to peacekeeping. More importantly, we, as Canadians hold peacekeeping as a priority. We must keep making important contributions to United Nations, such as providing more soldiers and funds. We should maintain our national interest as a priority, but, according to Canadian people, our national interest is to remain an economic and political power while helping the United Nations to keep the peace in the world. Because we hold peacekeeping so dear to our hearts, it is very important that the Canadian government continue to keep peacekeeping as a priority. Not only does maintaining peacekeeping as main concern continue to express our values as Canadians, it continues to show the rest of the world what type of country Canada is. What our values are, what we believe to be important, and in turn promotes Canada as a non threatening, peace loving country.

World Peace In relation to Peacekeeping

A wise man's statement, "injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere", can be used to illustrate the need for Canada's peacekeepers around the world. Peacekeepers unbiased generosity promotes a harmonious stability that not only benefits Canadians, but the future of mankind. Genocides such as that of Bosnia, Kosovo and Rwanda are tragedies that the world must prevent from reoccurring in the future.

Canada's Involvement with the United Nations towards A Peaceful Future for Our World.

In September of this year, Prime Minister Paul Martin addressed the United Nations to discuss "UN reform, particularly about the way we should serve and the way we do business if the United Nations is to play the role we want it to in the 21st century." (<http://www.pm.gc.ca/eng/news.asp?id=266>). According to Prime Minister Martin the five areas that need reformation are as follows:

- 1 "Protection and development of rules and political will that allow the international community to intervene in countries to prevent human catastrophe."
- 2 "The responsibility to deny. (I.e. Non-proliferation and disarmament, prevention of the spreading of weapons of mass destruction to states or terrorists.)"
- 3 "The responsibility to protect human beings, their dignity and their culture. (i.e. encouraging a UNESCO instrument on cultural promotion, implementing structures to protect numerous rights, such as civil, political, economical, social and cultural, and better protection of minorities, children and the marginalized.)"
- 4 "The responsibility to build. (I.e. building countries' governance institutions and economic institutions with instruments such as the UN Commission on the Private Sector and development, following up on the Monterrey Consensus in order to benefit The Millennium Summit on poverty, disease and global insecurity. "

- 5 “Protection of the Future. (i.e. protection of the worlds’ health, oceans, environment and space).

<http://www.pm.gc.ca/eng/news.asp?id=266>

The Prime Ministers speech clearly shows peacekeeping is more than sending troops abroad, it also involves creating and working with structured multilateral instruments such as the UN and all that it has to offer. In addition to all of this, in order to provide calming stability to the international community Canada has offered 20 million dollars to Darfur, Sudan. Hopefully this investment towards peace, along with the assistance of the Security Council and the African Union, will erase the need for sending peacekeepers to places in the future. (<http://www.pm.gc.ca/eng/news.asp?id=266>)

Peacekeeping In Retrospect: Remembering the Past but Moving Forwards towards the Future.

Participating in the peacekeeping ideology demands constant reformation, more funding and less risks, but how can we afford not to participate in this endeavour? Are we to make up our minds as countless innocent people die, by not being a part of the solution? As we see in places around the world such as Israel, Palestine, Haiti, and Afghanistan, this is a destruction that we cannot afford. The world’s war and turmoil is a cancer that will deplete the world of its diverse beauty, loving spirit and rich resources.

As we can see Canada’s contribution towards peacekeeping is a unique phenomenon that should cause every human being to feel proud. Peacekeeping allows citizens of states, torn apart by religious, cultural, economic and physical warfare to be united as citizens of the world. It is by way of this peace, aid, and brotherly love that a liberation for all of mankind can and hopefully will be achieved. Peacekeeping in its truest essence and just form is the closest thing to creating a peaceful equilibrium. A world where all people, despite there differences are accepted and cared for equally.

Conclusion

Overall, peacekeeping is an important aspect of Canadian foreign policy. It is clear to see that Canadian peacekeeping along with the United Nations promotes international unification, which in turn projects Canada and Canadian values in a positive light throughout the international community. In order to strengthen peacekeeping and multilateral instruments such as the United Nations, we have recommended several solutions to Canada's peacekeeping mandate. First of all; by providing SHIRBRIG with the majority of our troops, allows Canadians to be the first line of defense when peacekeepers are called to duty. This is pertinent due to the fact that it projects the importance of peace to Canadians. Increased rapid deployment of civilians to peacekeeping missions provides these missions more productivity and in turn decreases the amount of international warfare. Also, more reformation between the Canadian government and the United Nations will support and improve all aspects of Canada's strategic fight for peace.

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