

**REPORT OF THE E-CONSULTATION ON THE
GOVERNMENT'S APRIL 2005 INTERNATIONAL
POLICY STATEMENT CONDUCTED BY THE
HOUSE OF COMMONS STANDING COMMITTEE
ON FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND INTERNATIONAL
TRADE – OCTOBER-NOVEMBER 2005**

**PREPARED FOR THE HOUSE OF COMMONS
STANDING COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN AFFAIRS
AND INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT**

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INTRODUCTION

On 19 April 2005, the Government of Canada tabled its *International Policy Statement: A Role of Pride and Influence in the World* (IPS) in Parliament. The IPS was intended both to review Canada's role in the world and our international policies on a "whole of government" basis, and to provide policy directions to address future challenges and improve Canada's capacity to act as a global player. The IPS consisted of an "Overview" paper and four specific papers on "Defence," "Diplomacy," "Development," and "Commerce."

The House of Commons Standing Committee on Foreign Affairs and International Trade began a study of the IPS in April 2005. The Committee held public hearings in Ottawa and also in Winnipeg, Toronto, and Montreal in the fall of 2005. As part of its study of the IPS, the Committee launched an internet-based public consultation on 21 October 2005. This "e-consultation" was open to all Canadians. It was intended to solicit the views and input of citizens from across the country who would otherwise not have been able to participate in the Committee's hearings on the issues raised in the IPS.

The e-consultation consisted of ten parts with multiple questions under the following headings: general; challenges, goals, and resources; diplomacy; defence and security; development cooperation and aid; trade and commerce; Canada-United States relations; multilateral institutions and reforms; human rights and democratic values; and a conclusion and evaluation of the e-consultation. Each section contained both multiple-choice and open-ended questions that permitted respondents to expand on their views, explain their choice, and provide additional commentary.

On the 21 October launch date, the Committee distributed a news release to relevant non-governmental organizations, academics and academic institutions, business organizations, student groups, and think tanks encouraging those individuals and organizations to participate and post notification of the e-consultation on relevant Web sites and e-mail distribution lists. This news release was followed on 4 November 2005 by an e-mail reminder of the e-consultation and the open dates for submissions. The Committee closed the e-consultation due to the dissolution of the 38th Parliament on 29 November 2005.

The following is a summary report providing an overview of responses to the e-consultation questionnaire. Respondents had the option of completing the questionnaire on-line or by printing the questionnaire and submitting answers by mail. There were a total of 4,039 submissions, of which 4,008 submissions were received on-line and 31 submissions were received in hard-copy format. Respondents were not required to answer every part of the questionnaire. The total number of responses to individual questions ranged from 1,719 to 2,351.

The e-consultation was not a scientific public opinion poll. This report summarizes how respondents answered individual questions; it makes no inferences as to what Canadians at large may think. Rather, the e-consultation was intended as a tool to gauge the opinions of Canadians on Canada's international policies and Canada's overall approach to international affairs. The e-consultation made use of new technology in soliciting the views of Canadians. As such, it complemented the Committee's hearings on the IPS, allowing more Canadians to provide input to the Committee's study. Younger people, in particular, made use of this opportunity, with approximately 57% of respondents being younger than 36.

It should be noted that there was a significant increase in the number of respondents after 7 November 2005, following the distribution of notification by the Canadian Political Science Association e-mail distribution list, its posting on the Foreign Affairs Canada Web site, and an e-mail distribution by the *Make Poverty History* campaign. 59.6% of on-line submissions were received between 7 November 2005 and 9 November 2005. A message that was distributed to the *Make Poverty History* e-mail distribution list and posted on the campaign's Web site suggested responses to questions 2A, 2B, and 2C. Analysis of the statistical data indicates that there was high agreement between suggested responses and those responses received. The approximate agreement of responses received with the suggested responses of the *Make Poverty History* e-mail campaign is estimated in the Appendix.

E-CONSULTATION: STATISTICAL REPORT

There were a total of 4,008 on-line submissions and 31 hard-copy submissions to the House of Commons Standing Committee on Foreign Affairs and International Trade's e-consultation on the Government of Canada's *International Policy Statement*. On-line responses represented 99.2% of total responses. While the total number of respondents was 4,039, the total number of responses to individual questions ranged from 1,719 to 2,351.

The tables in the following statistical report are frequency tables. These tables list the total number of respondents who answered each question and the percent of total respondents who choose the selected response to that question. Therefore, the percentages (%) in the following tables refer to the proportion of respondents who answered each question. For the purposes of this report, respondents who did not answer individual questions were not included in the overall percentages for that question.

A. Executive Summary of Results

1. Participation and Regional Demographic Breakdown

The overall breakdown of respondents by region, gender and age is as follows:

- 42% from Ontario
- 36% from the West
- 13% from Quebec
- 8% from the Atlantic provinces
- 0.3% from the North
- 66% female
- 57% age 35 and under

2. Overview

a. Ideas and Implementation

- Overall, 46% of respondents “somewhat agree” with the policies contained in the IPS; however, 69% of respondents “somewhat disagree” with the government’s overall approach to the international challenges facing Canada and with the government’s actions to meet the goals of the IPS.

b. The Top Three Selections for “Most Important Overall Goals of Canada’s International Policies”

- 94% selected “ending global poverty”
- 54% selected “environmental sustainability for future generations”
- 36% selected “international peace and security”

c. The Main Image Respondents Would Like People in Other Countries to Have of Canada’s International Role

- 51% selected “global citizen”
- 25% selected “respected peacekeeper”

3. Diplomacy

- 44% of respondents were “somewhat dissatisfied” and 24% were “very dissatisfied” with the Government’s actions to make good on Canada’s international commitments

- 65% supported increasing the number of foreign service personnel deployed from headquarters to Canadian embassies and consulates abroad
- 82% supported the *Global Peace and Security Fund* and the *START* initiative

4. Defence and Security

- Respondents were less supportive of increased spending on Defence: 40% selected “the same as now” for Defence spending and 27% selected “less.”
- “Non-military contributions to international security” was selected as the highest spending priority in the area of defence and security; “military capabilities for undertaking international peacekeeping operations” was selected as the second highest spending priority.

5. Development Cooperation and Aid

a. Top three selections of factors that should guide where and how Canada spends its international aid dollars

- 87% selected “poverty reduction”
- 64% selected “immediate need in response to humanitarian emergency”
- 61% selected “sustainable long-term strategies leading to self-reliance”

b. Canada should increase spending on foreign aid

- 82% “strongly agree” that Canada should adopt a firm budgetary timetable for reaching the international aid target of 0.7% of Gross National Income (GNI) by 2015.

c. Focusing Development Aid

- 34% “somewhat disagree” and 23% “strongly disagree” that Canada should focus its development aid on fewer countries.

6. Trade and Commerce

a. Diversification

- 46% “somewhat agree” and 40% “strongly agree” that Canada should diversify trading relationships by focusing on opportunities in major emerging market countries; 39% “somewhat disagree” and 20% “strongly disagree” that Canada should concentrate on our primary North American market.

b. Interests and Values

- 86% believe it should be mandatory for Canadian businesses operating abroad to comply with international human rights and environmental standards.

7. Canada-United States Relations

- In terms of overall attitudes towards the relationship, 73% selected “more independent Canadian policies” for the direction in which they would like to see Canada-United States relations move.
- However, there was greater distribution in attitudes towards increasing cooperation with the United States in specific areas. For example, 45% “strongly agree” and 24% “somewhat agree” that Canada should increase cooperation with the United States on the environment.

8. Multilateral Institutions and Reforms

a. United Nations

- Overall, respondents agreed with the importance of United Nations reform (92% strongly and somewhat agreed that Canada should work to reform the UN); however, respondents were generally “dissatisfied” or “very dissatisfied” with UN efforts in specific areas, especially in addressing “crimes against humanity” such as the genocide in Rwanda and the ongoing crisis in Darfur.

b. The Responsibility to Protect

- 62% “strongly agree” and 31% “somewhat agree” that the international community has the responsibility to protect people in critical situations when their governments fail to protect them.

9. Human Rights and Democratic Values

- 91% “strongly” or “somewhat” agree that Canada should devote more resources to the promotion of democracy and human rights abroad.
- 29% “don’t know” about the Canada Corps initiative.

10. Did You Find the Questionnaire Useful?

- 96% selected “yes” or “somewhat.”

B. Statistical Report

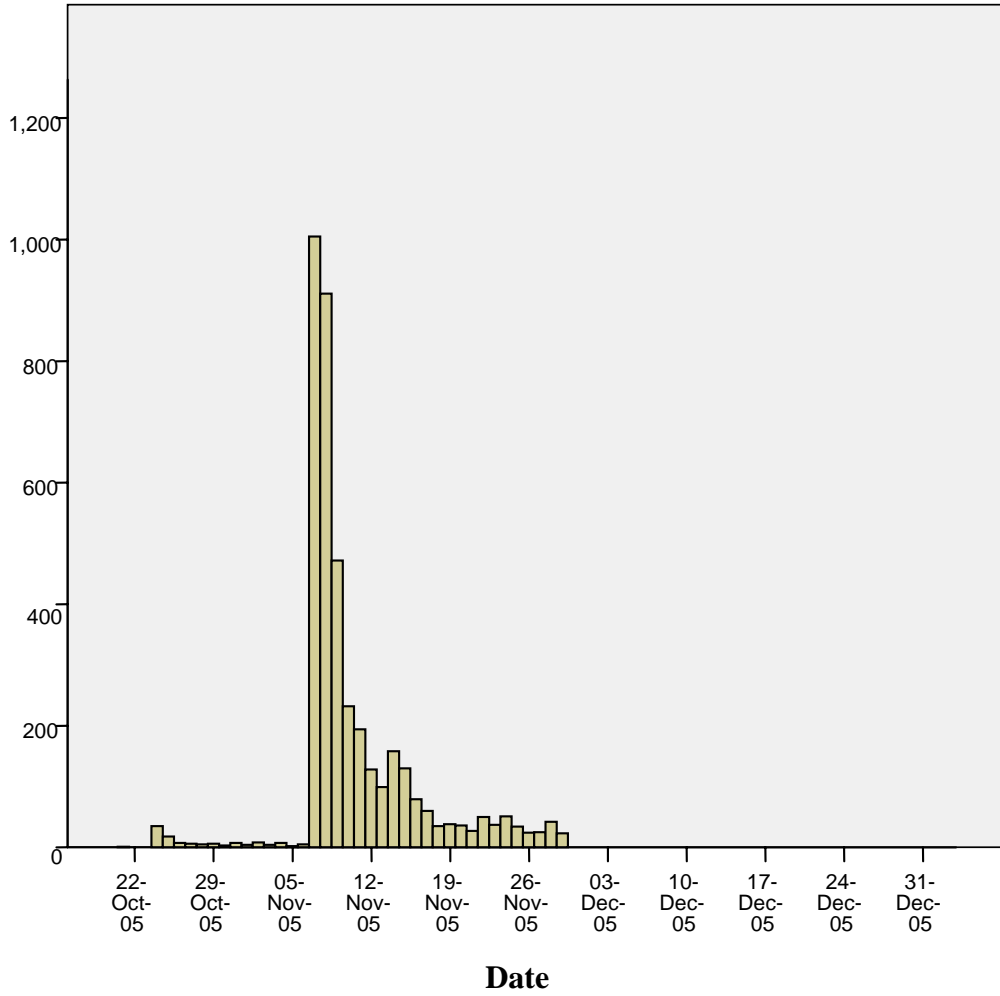
Date of Responses⁽¹⁾

	Number of Respondents	(%) of Total Respondents
21-OCT-05	1	0.0
24-OCT-05	35	0.9
25-OCT-05	18	0.4
26-OCT-05	7	0.2
27-OCT-05	6	0.1
28-OCT-05	5	0.1
29-OCT-05	6	0.1
30-OCT-05	3	0.1
31-OCT-05	7	0.2
01-NOV-05	4	0.1
02-NOV-05	8	0.2
03-NOV-05	4	0.1
04-NOV-05	7	0.2
05-NOV-05	2	0.0
06-NOV-05	5	0.1
07-NOV-05	1,005	25.1
08-NOV-05	911	22.7
09-NOV-05	472	11.8
10-NOV-05	232	5.8
11-NOV-05	194	4.8
12-NOV-05	128	3.2
13-NOV-05	99	2.5
14-NOV-05	158	3.9
15-NOV-05	130	3.2
16-NOV-05	79	2.0
17-NOV-05	60	1.5
18-NOV-05	35	0.9
19-NOV-05	38	0.9
20-NOV-05	36	0.9
21-NOV-05	27	0.7
22-NOV-05	50	1.2
23-NOV-05	37	0.9
24-NOV-05	51	1.3
25-NOV-05	34	0.8
26-NOV-05	24	0.6
27-NOV-05	25	0.6
28-NOV-05	42	1.0
29-NOV-05	23	0.6
Total	4,008	100.0

(1) Note: There were a total of 4,008 on-line respondents; 0.8% of respondents, a total of 31 submissions, were received in hard copy form. This chart reflects the date of on-line submissions.

Number of On-line Respondents by Date

Number of Respondents



DEMOGRAPHIC INFORMATION

Nationality of Respondent

	Number of Respondents	Percent
Canadian	3,902	96.7
Other	134	3.3
Total	4,036	100.0

Respondents' Country of Residence

	Number of Respondents	Percent
Canada	3,956	98.1
Other	78	1.9
Total	4,034	100.0

Gender of Respondents

	Number of Respondents	Percent
Female	2,649	65.6
Male	1,388	34.4
Total	4,038	100.0

Province of Residence

	Number of Respondents	Percent
Alberta	453	11.4
B.C.	698	17.6
Manitoba	164	4.1
New Brunswick	79	2.0
Newfoundland	64	1.6
Northwest Territories	4	0.1
Nova Scotia	153	3.8
Nunavut	3	0.1
Ontario	1,685	42.4
P.E.I.	31	0.8
Quebec	521	13.1
Saskatchewan	114	2.9
Yukon	6	0.2
Total	3,975	100.0

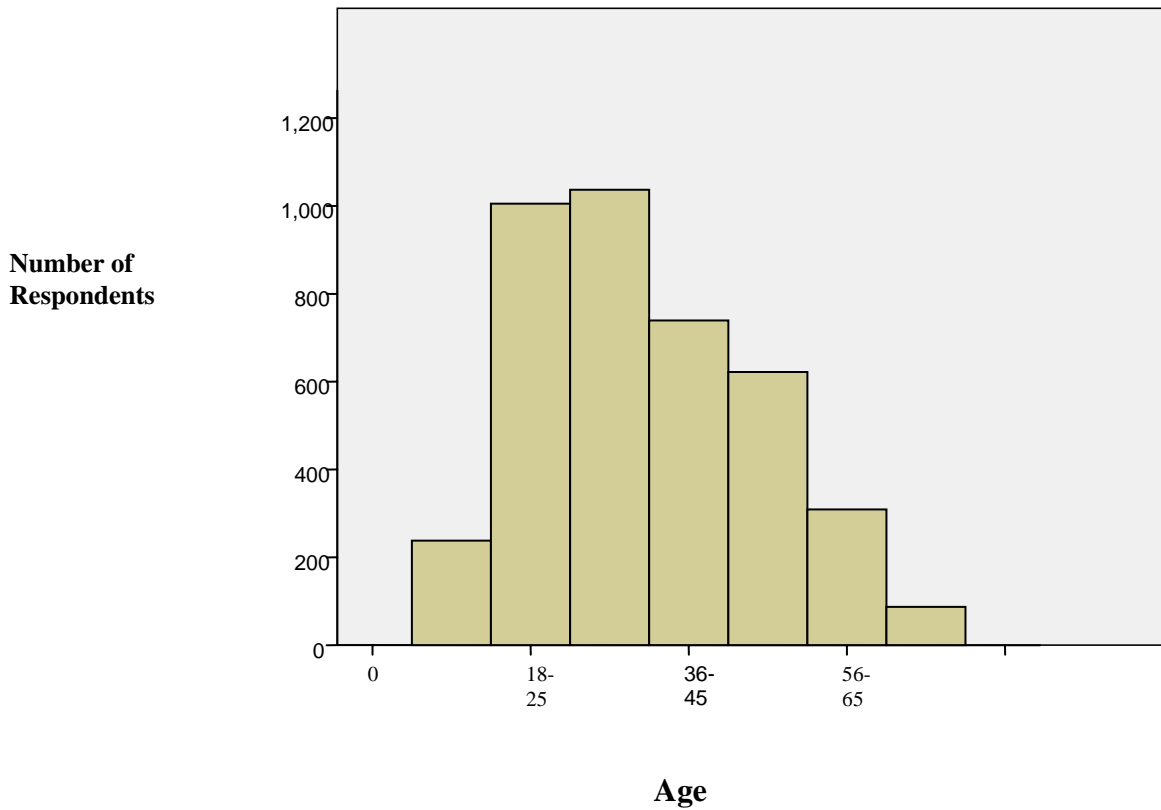
Region of Residence⁽²⁾

	Number of Respondents	Percent
Ontario	1,685	42.4
Quebec	521	13.1
West	1,429	35.9
Atlantic	327	8.2
North	13	0.3
Total	3,975	100.0

(2) Results for “Region of Residence” were compiled from data on “Province of Residence.”

Age of Respondents

Age	Number of Respondents	Percent	Cumulative Percent
under 18	238	5.9	5.9
18-25	1,005	24.9	30.8
26-35	1,037	25.7	56.5
36-45	739	18.3	74.8
46-55	622	15.4	90.2
56-65	309	7.7	97.8
over 65	87	2.2	100.0
Total	4,037	100.0	



PART 1: General

Question 1a. Which parts of Canada's *International Policy Statement* have you read? Please check all that apply.⁽³⁾

IPS Chapter	Percent "Yes"	Percent "No"
Overview	77.5	22.5
Diplomacy	50.4	49.6
Defence	45.4	54.6
Development	57.9	42.1
Commerce	44.1	55.9

Question 1b. What is your overall level of agreement with the government policies contained in the *International Policy Statement*?

	Number of Respondents	Percent
Strongly Agree	52	2.5
Somewhat Agree	938	45.8
Somewhat Disagree	484	23.6
Strongly Disagree	74	3.6
Don't Know	497	24.3
Total	2,045	100.0

(3) Note: the total number of respondents who answered each part of this question ranged from 1,841-2,152.

PART 2: Challenges, Goals, Resources, Roles

Question 2a. What do you think should be the most important overall goals of Canada's international policies? Please choose up to three from the following list:⁽⁴⁾

One of the most important overall goals of Canada's international policies	Percent "Yes"
Ending Global Poverty	94.2
Environmental Sustainability for Future Generations	53.8
International Peace and Security	36.2
Good Relations with other countries	9.4
Security of Canadians	6.7
Prosperity of Canadians	6.3
Promoting Canadian Values Abroad	3.8
Other	2.7

Question 2b. Do you agree with the government's overall approach to the international challenges facing Canada and with the government's actions to meet the goals of the *International Policy Statement*?

	Number of Respondents	Percent
Strongly Agree	33	1.4
Somewhat Agree	422	18.5
Somewhat Disagree	1,580	69.3
Strongly Disagree	122	5.4
Don't Know	123	5.4
Total	2,280	100.0

(4) Note: a total of 2,351 respondents answered this question.

Question 2c. Should the government be spending more, the same as, or less than it is now on these international challenges and goals both overall and in the following specific areas?⁽⁵⁾

	More (% yes)	Same As Now (% yes)	Less (% yes)	Don't Know (% yes)
Commerce (trade negotiations, trade and investment promotion)	20.1	50.8	16.6	12.5
Defence	25.8	39.8	26.6	7.7
Development Aid	93.9	3.9	1.3	0.9
Diplomacy (representation abroad including consular services and embassies, participation in international organizations)	70.1	21.7	5.3	2.8
Overall	69.1	19.6	2.0	9.4

Question 2d. What is the main image you would like people in other countries to have of Canada's international role?⁽⁶⁾ Please choose One:

Main Image	Percent "Yes"
"Global Citizen"	50.5
Respected Peacekeeper	25.0
Strong supporter of the United Nations	9.6
Other	6.6
"Model Power"	5.5
Moderate "middle power"	2.3
Close friend and ally of the United States	0.6

(5) Note: the total number of respondents who answered each part of this question ranged from 1,885-2,219.

(6) Note: a total of 2,198 respondents answered this question.

PART 3: Diplomacy

Question 3a. How satisfied are you with the government's actions in:

i. Involving Canadians in the development of international policy strategies?

	Number of Respondents	Percent
Very satisfied	62	3.1
Somewhat satisfied	751	37.9
Somewhat dissatisfied	765	38.6
Very dissatisfied	286	14.4
Don't know	120	6.0
Total	1,984	100.0

ii. Making good on Canada's international commitments?

	Number of Respondents	Percent
Very satisfied	47	2.4
Somewhat satisfied	528	26.5
Somewhat dissatisfied	872	43.8
Very dissatisfied	481	24.2
Don't know	63	3.2
Total	1,991	100.0

iii. Making sure Canada speaks with one voice on major international policy issues?

	Number of Respondents	Percent
Very satisfied	77	3.9
Somewhat satisfied	710	36.1
Somewhat dissatisfied	782	39.7
Very dissatisfied	246	12.5
Don't know	153	7.8
Total	1,968	100.0

Question 3b. Do you support the following government initiatives?

	Yes (%)	No (%)	Number of respondents
Increasing the number of foreign service personnel deployed from headquarters to Canadian embassies and consulates abroad	64.8	35.2	1,888
\$100 million annually over 5 years for a new Global Peace and Security Fund to support a Stabilization and Reconstruction Task Force (START) in order to increase Canada's capacity to respond rapidly to human security crises abroad	82.1	17.9	1,940

PART 4: Defence and Security

Question 4a. In the area of defence and security, please rank the following according to spending priority (1, 2, 3, 4, 5):

1 = top spending priority

5 = lowest spending priority

	Top Spending Priority	Lowest Spending Priority	Average Ranking
Non-military contributions to international security (diplomacy, disarmament, democracy, development)	45.5%	7.0%	2.11
Military capabilities for undertaking international peacekeeping operations	23.7%	3.2%	2.37
Military capabilities for the surveillance and defence of Canadian territory (including Arctic and coastal waters)	17.5%	13.8%	3.12
Non-military elements of domestic security (borders, intelligence, police, etc.)	10.7%	9.2%	2.99
Robust military capabilities for undertaking international security operations	4.0%	65.4%	4.34

Question 4b. Do you agree with the government's plans for bilateral defence and security cooperation with the United States?

	Number of Respondents	Percent
Strongly agree	91	5.0
Somewhat agree	496	27.0
Somewhat disagree	558	30.4
Strongly disagree	546	29.7
Don't know	145	7.9
Total	1,836	100.0

PART 5: Development Cooperation and Aid

Question 5a. What in your view are the most important factors that should guide where and how Canada spends its international aid dollars? Please choose up to three from the following list:⁽⁷⁾

	Percent (%) who chose each option
Poverty Reduction	87.3
Immediate Need in Response to Humanitarian Emergency	63.8
Sustainable Long-Term Strategies Leading to Self-Reliance	61.4
Human Rights Record	36.9
Rule of Law and Good Governance	10.6
Economic Benefits to Canada	5.1
Degree of Democracy	5.0
Importance to Canada's Security	4.4
Other	1.9

(7) Note: a total of 1,912 respondents answered this question.

Question 5b. Please indicate your level of agreement with each of the following statements:

	Strongly Agree (%)	Somewhat Agree (%)	Somewhat Disagree (%)	Strongly Disagree (%)	Don't Know (%)
i. Canada should adopt a firm budgetary timetable for reaching the international aid target of 0.7% of GNI (Gross National Income) by 2015 to meet its commitment to the Millennium Development Goals	82.0	12.1	2.5	1.7	1.8
ii. Canada should continue to give development aid to countries such as China	11.0	30.1	30.7	21.1	7.1
iii. Canada should focus its development aid on fewer countries	9.1	25.1	34.2	22.5	9.1
iv. Canada should increase the amount of money spent on foreign aid	68.8	20.9	5.0	2.7	2.7

PART 6: Trade and Commerce

Question 6a. Do you agree that the following should be government priorities in terms of international trade and investment?

	Strongly Agree (%)	Somewhat Agree (%)	Somewhat Disagree (%)	Strongly Disagree (%)	Don't Know (%)
i. Concentrating on our primary North American market	6.4	29.4	39.1	19.5	5.6
ii. Diversifying our trading relationships by focusing on opportunities in major emerging market countries	39.8	46.4	6.6	2.1	5.0
iii. Expanding our global trading relationships in ways that benefit developing countries	74.0	20.9	2.4	1.1	1.7
iv. Paying more attention to traditional markets such as in Europe	15.4	46.4	24.1	4.7	9.3

Question 6b. Please indicate which of the following should be key objectives of Canada's international economic relations. Please choose all with which you agree.⁽⁸⁾

	Percent (%) who chose each option
Making human rights and good governance a condition for closer trade ties or economic concessions such as debt relief	72.0
Making it mandatory for Canadian businesses operating abroad to comply with international human rights and environmental standards such as the OECD (Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development) Guidelines for Multinational Enterprises	85.5
Pursuing policy reforms to benefit poorer developing countries (such as reducing rich countries' agricultural subsidies)	80.3
Reducing global barriers to trade and market access	47.5
Seeking reforms to international economic institutions such as the WTO, the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and the World Bank to ensure fair rules and democratic accountability	76.3

(8) Note: a total of 1,805 respondents answered this question.

PART 7: Canada-United States Relations

Question 7a. Do you agree that Canada should *increase* its cooperation with American government authorities in the following areas?

i. Border security

	Number of Respondents	Percent
Strongly agree	332	18.6
Somewhat agree	719	40.3
Somewhat disagree	402	22.5
Strongly disagree	285	16.0
Don't know	47	2.6
Total	1,785	100.0

ii. Counter-terrorism and intelligence

	Number of Respondents	Percent
Strongly agree	275	15.4
Somewhat agree	562	31.4
Somewhat disagree	487	27.2
Strongly disagree	426	23.8
Don't know	39	2.2
Total	1,789	100.0

iii. Economy and trade

	Number of Respondents	Percent
Strongly agree	200	11.3
Somewhat agree	648	36.6
Somewhat disagree	547	30.9
Strongly disagree	308	17.4
Don't know	66	3.7
Total	1,769	100.0

iv. Energy

	Number of Respondents	Percent
Strongly agree	218	12.3
Somewhat agree	502	28.2
Somewhat disagree	473	26.6
Strongly disagree	504	28.4
Don't know	80	4.5
Total	1,777	100.0

v. Environment

	Number of Respondents	Percent
Strongly agree	800	44.6
Somewhat agree	433	24.2
Somewhat disagree	207	11.6
Strongly disagree	294	16.4
Don't know	58	3.2
Total	1,792	100.0

vi. Immigration

	Number of Respondents	Percent
Strongly agree	219	12.4
Somewhat agree	540	30.5
Somewhat disagree	483	27.3
Strongly disagree	408	23.1
Don't know	118	6.7
Total	1,768	100.0

vii. Missile defence

	Number of Respondents	Percent
Strongly agree	58	3.3
Somewhat agree	141	7.9
Somewhat disagree	259	14.5
Strongly disagree	1,272	71.4
Don't know	51	2.9
Total	1,781	100.0

Question 7b. In what direction would you like to see Canada-U.S. relations move? Please choose the one with which you most agree.⁽⁹⁾

	Percent "Yes"
2. More independent Canadian policies	73.0
5. Towards a North American community that includes Mexico	9.6
3. Remain about the same	8.0
6. Closer cooperation in certain areas only (please specify)	4.0
1. Deeper bilateral economic integration	3.1
4. Stronger foreign and defence alliances	2.3

(9) Note: a total of 1,784 respondents answered this question.

PART 8: Multilateral Institutions and Reforms

Question 8a. Please indicate your level of agreement with each of the following statements about Canada's approach to multilateral institutions such as the United Nations (UN):

i. Canada should rely primarily on multilateral institutions to respond to threats to international security.

	Number of Respondents	Percent
Strongly agree	513	29.8
Somewhat agree	671	39.0
Somewhat disagree	320	18.6
Strongly disagree	84	4.9
Don't know	131	7.6
Total	1,719	100.0

ii. Canada should work closely with other countries to reform the United Nations and other multilateral institutions.

	Number of Respondents	Percent
Strongly agree	987	56.8
Somewhat agree	618	35.5
Somewhat disagree	54	3.1
Strongly disagree	13	0.7
Don't know	67	3.9
Total	1,739	100.0

iii. Canada's support for multilateral institutions should depend on their serving our interests.

	Number of Respondents	Percent
Strongly agree	76	4.4
Somewhat agree	350	20.3
Somewhat disagree	702	40.6
Strongly disagree	502	29.1
Don't know	97	5.6
Total	1,727	100.0

iv. The international community has the responsibility to intervene to protect people in critical situations when their governments fail to protect them.

	Number of Respondents	Percent
Strongly agree	1,067	61.5
Somewhat agree	529	30.5
Somewhat disagree	80	4.6
Strongly disagree	22	1.3
Don't know	37	2.1
Total	1,735	100.0

v. When multilateral institutions cannot respond to a crisis or a threat to international security, Canada should join coalitions of countries willing to do what is necessary.

	Number of Respondents	Percent
Strongly agree	482	28.0
Somewhat agree	533	30.9
Somewhat disagree	366	21.2
Strongly disagree	243	14.1
Don't know	99	5.7
Total	1,723	100.0

Question 8b. How satisfied are you with efforts by the United Nations to deal with the following challenges:

i. Conflicts between states?

	Number of Respondents	Percent
Very satisfied	33	1.9
Somewhat satisfied	574	33.2
Somewhat dissatisfied	695	40.2
Very dissatisfied	300	17.4
Don't know	125	7.2
Total	1,727	100.0

ii. Crimes against humanity, such as the 1994 genocide in Rwanda or the ongoing crisis in the Darfur region of Sudan?

	Number of Respondents	Percent
Very satisfied	26	1.5
Somewhat satisfied	181	10.3
Somewhat dissatisfied	482	27.5
Very dissatisfied	1,023	58.4
Don't know	39	2.2
Total	1,751	100.0

iii. Development of nuclear, chemical or biological weapons by countries such as North Korea and Iran?

	Number of Respondents	Percent
Very satisfied	40	2.3
Somewhat satisfied	363	21.0
Somewhat dissatisfied	695	40.2
Very dissatisfied	520	30.1
Don't know	112	6.5
Total	1,730	100.0

iv. Environmental problems, such as climate change and pollution?

	Number of Respondents	Percent
Very satisfied	32	1.8
Somewhat satisfied	342	19.6
Somewhat dissatisfied	613	35.2
Very dissatisfied	701	40.2
Don't know	54	3.1
Total	1,742	100.0

v. Global poverty?

	Number of Respondents	Percent
Very satisfied	19	1.1
Somewhat satisfied	298	17.0
Somewhat dissatisfied	517	29.5
Very dissatisfied	893	50.9
Don't know	28	1.6
Total	1,755	100.0

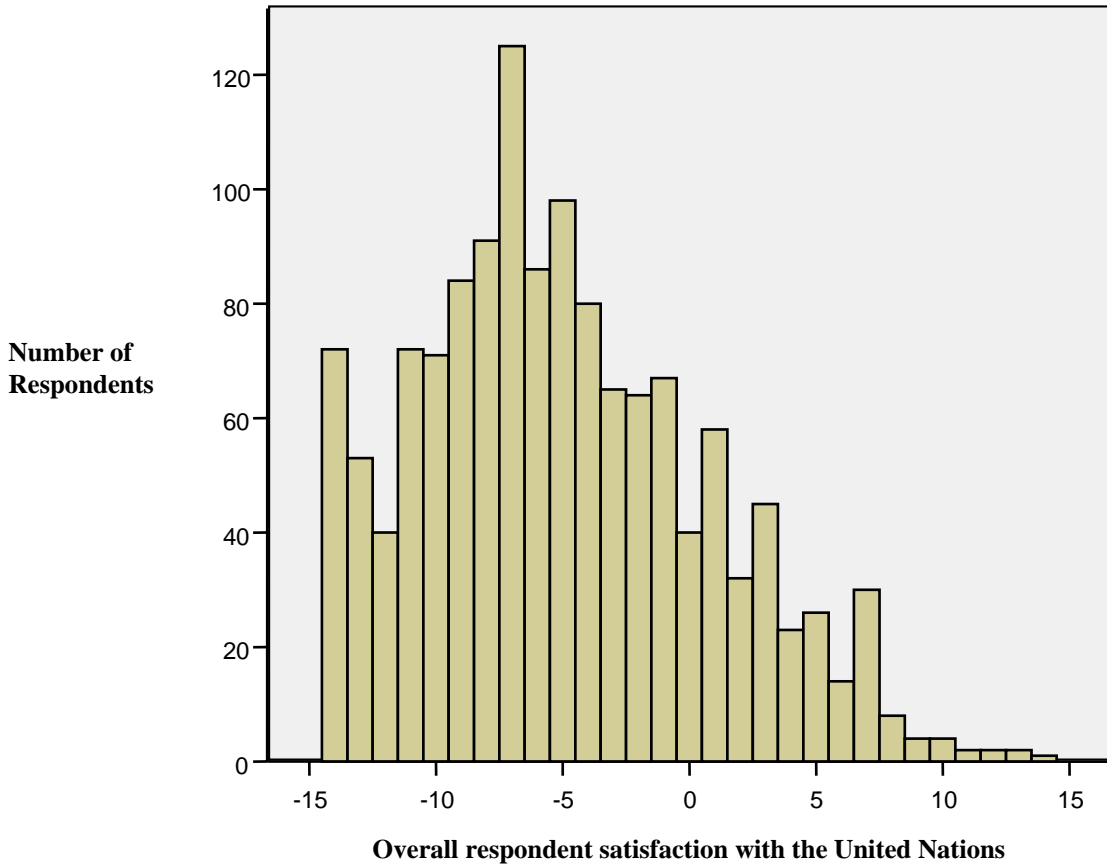
vi. Humanitarian crises, such as the Asian Tsunami disaster or famine?

	Number of Respondents	Percent
Very satisfied	133	7.6
Somewhat satisfied	881	50.5
Somewhat dissatisfied	420	24.1
Very dissatisfied	233	13.4
Don't know	78	4.5
Total	1,745	100.0

vii. International terrorism?

	Number of Respondents	Percent
Very satisfied	49	2.8
Somewhat satisfied	536	31.2
Somewhat dissatisfied	607	35.3
Very dissatisfied	355	20.6
Don't know	173	10.1
Total	1,720	100.0

Overall Respondent Satisfaction with the United Nations*



- 14 = Very dissatisfied
- 7 = Somewhat dissatisfied
7 = Somewhat satisfied
14 = Very satisfied

* This index was compiled by combining responses to questions 8i to 8 vii. Based on this index, approximately 79% of respondents expressed some level of overall dissatisfaction with the efforts of the United Nations.

PART 9: Human Rights and Democratic Values

Question 9. Please indicate your level of agreement with each of the following statements about the role of human rights and democratic values in Canada's international policies:

i. Canada should devote more resources to the promotion of democracy and human rights abroad.

	Number of Respondents	Percent
Strongly agree	850	48.3
Somewhat agree	747	42.4
Somewhat disagree	99	5.6
Strongly disagree	24	1.4
Don't know	40	2.3
Total	1,760	100.0

ii. Democracy and human rights should be a key condition of Canada's relations with other countries.

	Number of Respondents	Percent
Strongly agree	684	39.0
Somewhat agree	756	43.1
Somewhat disagree	224	12.8
Strongly disagree	53	3.0
Don't know	36	2.1
Total	1,753	100.0

iii. Initiatives like Canada Corps are a good idea.

	Number of Respondents	Percent
Strongly agree	456	26.3
Somewhat agree	640	36.9
Somewhat disagree	99	5.7
Strongly disagree	34	2.0
Don't know	504	29.1
Total	1,733	100.0

iv. The Government Statement devotes sufficient attention to human rights issues.

	Number of Respondents	Percent
Strongly agree	105	6.1
Somewhat agree	498	28.9
Somewhat disagree	585	34.0
Strongly disagree	215	12.5
Don't know	319	18.5
Total	1,722	100.0

Before finishing, please tell us if you found the questionnaire useful.

	Number of Respondents	Percent
Yes	1,012	57.8
Somewhat	659	37.7
No	37	2.1
Don't know	42	2.4
Total	1,750	100.0

SELECTED RESPONSES TO OPEN-ENDED QUESTIONS

The following represent a small selection of quotes taken from responses to the open-ended questions in the e-consultation. Each section of the questionnaire contained multiple choice questions and open-ended questions that permitted respondents to expand on their views, and provide additional commentary. Respondents made general comments concerning Canada's international policies and the future direction of these policies, and the need to address specific challenges and global problems. Certain responses to the open-ended questions also reflected concern among respondents that some aspects of Canada's international policies were not sufficiently addressed in the IPS.

Responses to the open-ended questions tended to confirm respondents' selections in the multiple-choice sections. The number of responses to the open-ended questions was significantly lower than response rates to the multiple-choice questions. Therefore, while there were interesting responses and comments, it cannot be assumed that these responses reflect the views of all respondents to the e-consultation questionnaire, or that they explain the statistical results of the multiple-choice questions.

All open-ended responses were read and analyzed. The following citations represent only a small selection of notable comments from the open-ended responses. In addition to comments on Canada's international policies, some respondents also provided helpful comments concerning the e-consultation itself, and the use of Internet technology in public consultations.

A. Overall Comments

- *“For the most part, these policies are in line with my own beliefs on our place in the world. As a Canadian I love the fact that Canada wants to be more involved globally, again. We seem to have taken a backseat on the world stage more and more during the past 20 years, and it’s important in this day and age to re-connect.”*
- *“Without real financial backing, the policies outlined in the 3D approach will never move beyond rhetoric, and most importantly will continue to quietly chip away at the international reputation Canadians hold so dear to their identities as such.”*
- *“I am pleased to see a more integrated approach across many levels. International Policy cannot be confined to one federal government department if it wishes to be successful. The more systematic approach reflects both the complexities and chaos that is the world in which we reside.”*
- *“Overall, a high-sounding statement with not too much behind it.”*
- *“The one issue I did not see highlighted was the rights of women and children. While they are covered by overall human rights, I think they deserve some special mention as we know that increasing the education/rights for children is a good indicator or predictor of the prosperity of a country in general.”*
- *“Aside from Canada Corps, there is nothing in the IPS which provides room for young Canadians (not ‘youth’ as this category often lumps together young professionals in this category together with everyone in the teens and early-twenties age bracket) to provide a contribution to the IPS or its implementation. By default, many of us are already representing Canada abroad in our jobs, and this is an unacknowledged fact in the IPS – the role that the next generation can play, and be recognized for.”*
- *“The IPS is a document that could have been written five or more years ago; it does not address the real challenge of international policy in the world today: U.S. exceptionalism. It fails to focus on the potential of global civil society and is stuck in a state-centric view of international relations. It should be scrapped and replaced with a document that has genuine visions.”*
- *“It’s a daunting task. I believe that the IPS is a great start, but will need to be fluid and adapt to the ever changing global climate ...”*

B. On Development and Poverty Reduction

- Some participants in the e-consultation felt that the IPS did not deal adequately with global poverty reduction. As one noted, the *“IPS ignores issues regarding agriculture, an astounding omission given the problem of hunger in much of the developing world and the failure of free trade policies to open markets for farmers in these countries.”*

- *“While I understand CIDA’s desire to focus on a limited number of priority countries for its own bilateral programs, this limits the ability of Canadian and other NGOs to respond to very real needs in other parts of the world – areas in which they have particular geographic expertise and involvement – even if the Canadian government is not in a position to programme assistance itself.”*
- *“I just want to reiterate the importance of working towards achieving the MDGs [Millennium Development Goals]. There is no hope for global stability without addressing inequity and poverty.”*

C. On Diplomacy

- *“I agree that Foreign Affairs needs to enhance its field presence; it appears to myself and I’m sure others that the cutbacks since the 1980s, especially in the embassy/consulate part of field operations, have hurt Canadian visibility abroad. We need embassies in virtually every nation it is feasible to have them; we need consulates in all major world cities to ensure our ability to react to regional situations and provide support to our people everywhere.”*
- *“I think Canada should be a driving force in reforming the UN and making it actually ‘work’ for people who are facing genocide or other disasters in their developing countries.”*

D. On Defence

- *“Within the discussion on defence, there is much talk about failed and failing states without ever discussing causes for them. Increased military spending to deal with failed states does not in anyway deal with preventing them, which is key. If the 3-D approach as seen in Haiti is what Canada is aiming for, I am horrified. Aid that goes to military or paying debts is not aid.”*
- *“In order to strengthen our commitment to human rights and humanitarian efforts abroad, Canada must at least double its defence budget, earmarking money for capital expenditures over at least a 20 year period and increasing our military force (both reserve and active regular force combined) to 100,000. The Canadian government expects our superior trained armed forces to risk life and limb when they are asked, and we show them how much we appreciate them by sending them with faulty, outdated equipment to accomplish the great demands we place on them. We must not forget that for many in the world our Canadian Forces are the only hint of who we are and what we represent.”*

E. On the Environment

- Some participants in the e-consultation felt that the IPS did not deal adequately with the environment, climate change, and global warming. As one noted, *“I feel that environmental issues were only given a passing mention. Common sense tells me that if we destroy our planet by polluting it, none of the other issues including poverty or terrorism are relevant. We seem to be a world in denial of clear signs that we are reaching the point of no return, environmentally speaking.”*
- *“I feel that more emphasis needs to be put on stopping global warming because if it is not halted, the economic and security issues resulting will be dire not only for Canada, but for the whole world.”*
- *“... We need to work towards sustainable and friendly energy solutions at home, continue to meet Kyoto by pushing big business to find more environmentally-friendly ways to do their work, and by taking aggressive positions globally on matters of wildlife preservations, the preservation of key areas of the ocean, over fishing, and global climate change which has destroyed the Artic ...”*

F. On Commerce

- *“A greater recognition of the challenge of youth in the global economy would be appropriate given the fact that over 50% of the population in developing countries are under 25 years old.”*
- *“China, India, Brazil trumpeted throughout, but nothing at all on how to engage them, or on what issues. Everyone wants to talk with the emerging giants of the economic south, and there is competition for access, but why would they want to talk with us?”*
- *“I would like it if the government spoke more of ‘fair trade’ with other countries, especially developing nations, rather than ‘free trade.’ The problems we have experienced with NAFTA prove that free trade really only means free trade for the richer, more powerful nations and expanding free trade throughout the Americas will only [exacerbate] poverty in many countries.”*
- *“Globalism is only global for multinational corporations; in fact we are becoming more detached from other nations; as evident by the gap between developing and post-industrial nations ...”*
- *“To me the most important element is long term structural economic reform (such as the removal of farming subsidies) that will promote and enable self-sufficiency amongst the poorer nations and reduce the dependency on aid and enable them to participate fairly in a worldwide free trade economy ...”*

G. On Canada-United States Relations

- *“I am concerned with how closely tied we are and will be with the United States in regards to security and economy. I think that Canada should be more independent of these ties, making stronger relationships with other nations who are more focused on peaceful solutions to the world’s problems. Now it seems we are so dependent on the U.S. we feel we have to go along with their solutions, otherwise we would not be able to survive the economic impacts.”*

H. On the United Nations

- *“... the questions were somewhat ambiguous, and I am afraid some of my answers will support things I don’t really support. For example, I am very dissatisfied with the UN responses to many crises, but they are often held back by the U.S., China, Israel, etc. Therefore, while I may not like what the UN does sometimes, my answer does not reflect the fact that I feel the UN is the best forum for solving many of the world’s problems.”*

I. On HIV/AIDS

- Some participants in the e-consultation also felt that the IPS did not deal adequately with international health issues, specifically HIV/AIDS. As one noted, *“AIDS reduction is not specifically addressed and is still a tremendous problem for much of the world.”*
- *“It may be included, but there needs to be emphasis on the HIV/AIDS crisis. Canada needs to take the lead and be recognized globally as the foremost country leading the fight against this crisis.”*

J. On E-Consultations

- *“It was refreshing to be heard. Now, if only you will listen.”*
- *“Very good use of technology, which should lead to greater public participation.”*
- *“I would like to know more about how this information is going to be used and with whom it will be shared.”*
- *“... make more of an effort to make average Canadians aware of this Web site so that they can feel more involved in the political process.”*
- *“Internet-based questionnaires are great. However, the questions on this survey were somewhat leading.”*

APPENDIX

Estimated Impact of the *Make Poverty History* E-mail Campaign

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Estimated Impact of the *Make Poverty History* E-mail Campaign

On 7 November 2005, the *Make Poverty History* campaign distributed a message to its Canadian e-mail distribution list, suggesting responses to questions 2a., 2b., and 2c. in the House of Commons Standing Committee on Foreign Affairs and International Trade's public e-consultation. While the impact of this e-mail campaign is difficult to determine accurately, there appears to be strong agreement between the suggested responses and responses that were received.

Question 2a. What do you think should be the most important overall goals of Canada's international policies?

- *Make Poverty History* suggested response: “#1, ending global poverty.”

Is the response the one suggested by the *Make Poverty History* campaign?

- 94.2% of respondents who answered this question selected “ending global poverty.”

Question 2b. Do you agree with the government's overall approach to the international challenges facing Canada and with the government's actions to meet the goals of the *International Policy Statement*?

- *Make Poverty History* suggested response: “#3, somewhat disagree (because Canada has not set a schedule for meeting the internationally accepted aid target of 0.7 – nor has it been a main voice for change when it comes to setting trade rules that will help poor countries).”

Is the response the one suggested by the *Make Poverty History* campaign?

- 69.3% of respondents who answered this question selected “somewhat disagree.”

Question 2c. Should the government be spending more, the same as, or less than it is now on these international challenges and goals both overall and in the following specific areas?

Should the government be spending more, the same as, or less on Development Aid?

- *Make Poverty History* suggested response: “choose more.”

Is the response the one suggested by the *Make Poverty History* campaign?

- 93.9% of respondents who answered this question selected “more.”

Should the government be spending more, the same as, or less on Diplomacy?

- *Make Poverty History* suggested response: “choose more.”

Is the response the one suggested by the *Make Poverty History* campaign?

- 70.1% of respondents who answered this question selected “more.”

Overall

Are the answers to Question 2a., 2b., 2c.(iii) and 2c.(iv) the same as those suggested by the *Make Poverty History* campaign?

- 61% of respondents answered all four questions the same way as the *Make Poverty History* campaign suggested.