UN Security Council: “We Cannot Afford to Fail”
Learning in Retirement, Carleton University
Dr. Marcel Jesenský, Spring 2019 – Session II
Exploring new challenges (1968-1985)

Spheres of influence
the Middle East
China, vetoes
Cambodia, Afghanistan, Iran-Iraq, Grenada
When there was a dispute between two small powers, the dispute eventually disappeared.
If there was a dispute between a small power and a great power, the small power disappeared.
And if there was a dispute between two great powers, the Security Council disappeared.

Ambassador Arsene Usher (Ivory Coast)
Security Council, 24 May 1965
“Uniting for Peace”
UNGA resolution 377 A, (3 November 1950):

"Resolves that **if the Security Council**, because of **lack of unanimity of the permanent members**, fails to exercise its primary responsibility for the maintenance of international peace and security in any case where there appears to be a threat to the peace, breach of the peace, or act of aggression, **the General Assembly shall consider the matter immediately** with a view to making appropriate recommendations to Members for collective measures, including in the case of a breach of the peace or act of aggression the use of armed force when necessary, to maintain or restore international peace and security."
August 1968

the Prague Spring, the Czecho-Slovak Spring

Alexander Dubček, Slovak politician

“Socialism with human face”

20-21 August 1968

the question of Czecho-Slovakia (23 August)
It is, certainly, a frightening commentary on the ominous state of world affairs that one super-State or the other can become exercised to the point of resorting to military action because of the liberalization of a régime in a small country like Czechoslovakia or because of an internal upheaval in another small State, such as the Dominican Republic.

U Thant, UN S-G

September 1968
加拿大是较早与中国建交的西方国家之一。1970年10月13日建交以来，两国关系取得长足发展，双方高层互访频繁，各级别往来日益密切，经贸、能源、科技、卫生、文化、教育、旅游等广泛领域合作不断深化。2010年6月，胡锦涛主席对加拿大进行了成功的国事访问，两国领导人重申致力于发展中加战略伙伴关系，为中加关系的发展指明了方向。

2010年是中加建交40周年。我部举办此次图片文献展，回顾40年来中加政治、经贸、文教各方面交往与合作，展现中加关系发展所取得的丰硕成果。让我们共同祝愿中加战略伙伴关系在未来岁月里不断迈上新的台阶。

Preface

Canada is among the first Western countries to establish diplomatic relations with the People’s Republic of China. Since the establishment of diplomatic ties on 13th October 1970, China-Canada relations have achieved great progress with frequent high-level exchange of visits. Contacts at all levels have become increasingly close, and cooperation in a wide range of sectors has been continuously deepened, such as in the fields of economy and trade, energy, science and technology, health, culture, education and tourism. In June 2010, President Hu Jintao paid a successful state visit to Canada. Leaders from both sides reiterated their commitment to developing China-Canada Strategic Partnership during the visit, which orientated the developing course of China-Canada relations.

The year 2010 marks the 40th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between China and Canada. This documentary picture exhibition held by the Chinese Foreign Ministry is aimed at reviewing the China-Canada exchanges and cooperation in the political, economic and trade, cultural and education sectors, and exhibiting the fruitful achievements made in the course of developing China-Canada relations. Let us wish the China-Canada Strategic Partnership reach a new high in the years to come.

1970.10.13——2010.10.13
Restoration of China (PRC) in the UN

1949-1971

“two Chinas” (PRC, ROC)

Shifting opinion, majorities

25 October 1971

76 to 35 (17 abstentions)
2758 (XXVI). Restoration of the lawful rights of the People's Republic of China in the United Nations

The General Assembly,

Recalling the principles of the Charter of the United Nations,

Considering that the restoration of the lawful rights of the People's Republic of China is essential both for the protection of the Charter of the United Nations and for the cause that the United Nations must serve under the Charter,

Recognizing that the representatives of the Government of the People's Republic of China are the only lawful representatives of China to the United Nations and that the People's Republic of China is one of the five permanent members of the Security Council,

Decides to restore all its rights to the People's Republic of China and to recognize the representatives of its Government as the only legitimate representatives of China to the United Nations, and to expel forthwith the representatives of Chiang Kai-shek from the place which they unlawfully occupy at the United Nations and in all the organizations related to it.

1976th plenary meeting,
The vetoes

Voting majorities

USSR (Russia) 16 February 1946
France/UK 30 October 1956
USA 17 March 1970
China 25 August 1972
The October War (1973)

“no peace, no war”

6 October 1973, Egypt-Syria attack (1967)

Airlifts (US, USSR)

Repeated ceasefires (S/RES/338)

24-25 October, 29 October

Oil boycott, US diplomacy (1979)
The Third World Majority

US vetoes (“hostile” UN)

Israel, the Middle East

PLO, Palestinians (1974-75)

South Africa (October 1974)

Osirak (1981)
UN Transition Assistance Group (UNTAG)

Contact Group (US, UK, F, Canada, W. Germany)

Settlement Plan

Admin. control before/after elections
Activism, Passivism, Pacifism

Namibia (Canada, FRG)

Cambodia (January 1979)

Lebanon (UNIFIL)

Iran hostages

Iran-Iraq (1980-1988)
Afghanistan/Grenada

December 1979, USSR
25 October 1983, USA

the Soviet bloc and the Third World majority
USA and Latin America, the Commonwealth
