

Canada's relations with the U.S.S.R. and its satellites in a divided world

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Abstract

The political changes in the postwar world, characterized mainly by the lack of trust and diplomatic tensions were framing a new context for Canada's relations with the new communist bloc. A fresh start, leading the way for new developments, occurred at the end of the World War II and was characterized by the world dominance of the two superpowers: U.S.A. and the Soviet Union. In terms of bipolar world and of U.S. proximity, Canada has promoted a foreign policy pattern characterized by prudence, patience, compromise and flexibility. On the other hand, the Eastern European states' foreign policy, at least in the early postwar years, has proven the strong imprint of Moscow's policy. From this perspective, Canada and Eastern Europe, lacking resources and opportunities to initiate and support their views on major international issues, developed a foreign policy of response to the actions of superpowers, trying to reduce East–West tensions.

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