

WEBVTT

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<v SPEAKER_1>Hello again, and welcome to Global Exchange, part of the Canadian Global Affairs Institute's Podcast Network.

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<v SPEAKER_1>I'm your host, Colin Robertson.

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<v SPEAKER_1>On this episode, recorded on January the 12th, we look at Canada and the world in 2026 in context of the Carney government's foreign policy review with the Honourable Perrin Beatty and the Honourable John Manley.

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<v SPEAKER_1>Perrin and John serve Canada as members of parliament, holding various cabinet portfolios, including foreign affairs.

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<v SPEAKER_1>Perrin was also Defence Minister, while John served as Finance and Industry Minister.

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<v SPEAKER_1>They both have private sector experience, including Perrin leading the Canadian manufacturers and exporters in the Canadian Chamber of Commerce and John the Business Council of Canada.

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<v SPEAKER_1>They remain active in public policy, contributing to our public life, including their service on the Canadian Global Affairs Institute's Advisory Council.

00:00:57.820 --> 00:01:00.360

<v SPEAKER_1>Both are members of the Order of Canada.

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<v SPEAKER_1>Welcome back, gentlemen.

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<v SPEAKER_2>Glad to be with you, Colin.

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<v SPEAKER_3>Glad to be with you, Colin, always.

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<v SPEAKER_1>For listeners, the Carney government is conducting a foreign policy review in a world increasingly defined by conflict, including wars in Ukraine, Gaza, Sudan and in 60 other locations.

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<v SPEAKER_1>It's the most active period of conflict since the end of World War II.

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<v SPEAKER_1>They are transforming global politics, triggering humanitarian crises and reshaping alliances.

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<v SPEAKER_1>There are, for example, more forcibly displaced people now than at any point in recorded history.

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<v SPEAKER_1>Global trust is evaporating and our rules-based global order, created after the Second World War, is broken.

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<v SPEAKER_1>This is reflected in weakening institutions, regional rivalries, climate shocks, failing states, humanitarian crises, and reshaped alliances.

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<v SPEAKER_1>Governments are pouring record sums into military spending instead of education and health care.

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<v SPEAKER_1>Once the defender and underwriter of the rules-based multilateral order, freer trade and democracy, the United States under President Donald Trump is no longer interested in rules, order, freer trade or democracy.

00:02:17.340 --> 00:02:21.260

<v SPEAKER_1>It's about power and as he told the New York Times, he determines the morality.

00:02:22.560 --> 00:02:32.860

<v SPEAKER_1>Today, with the Carney government undertaking a foreign policy review, we are asking what and how should Canada be doing to advance our interests and uphold our values.

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<v SPEAKER_1>So let's get started.

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<v SPEAKER_1>And Perrin, I want you to lead on this first one.

00:02:36.460 --> 00:02:39.040

<v SPEAKER_1>Let me start with process.

00:02:39.040 --> 00:02:42.640

<v SPEAKER_1>How would you conduct the foreign policy review?

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<v SPEAKER_1>Do you do it in-house?

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<v SPEAKER_1>Do you do it a task force of wise persons, something John participated in?

00:02:47.860 --> 00:02:52.280

<v SPEAKER_1>Do you do it through Parliament with public consultation, cross-country hearings?

00:02:52.280 --> 00:02:56.200

<v SPEAKER_1>Or do we just, or do we even need a review?

00:02:56.200 --> 00:02:57.080

<v SPEAKER_1>This is what Mr.

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<v SPEAKER_1>Pearson told Pierre Trudeau in 1968 that, you know, you basically just did it and looked at the end of the year, and then you could tell what the foreign policy should be.

00:03:06.400 --> 00:03:07.940

<v SPEAKER_1>So what do you think?

00:03:07.940 --> 00:03:09.120

<v SPEAKER_1>Perrin?

00:03:09.120 --> 00:03:14.680

<v SPEAKER_2>Well, Colin, first of all, I think the important thing is to recognize we're not in ordinary times.

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<v SPEAKER_2>And as a result, then, the government is going to have to respond in a very different way.

00:03:18.940 --> 00:03:25.100

<v SPEAKER_2>The encouraging thing is that we finally have a government that takes Canada's role in the world seriously.

00:03:25.100 --> 00:03:36.680

<v SPEAKER_2>And if you were to ask me to describe what Canada's foreign policy was over the course of the last decade, I'd have to say it was something like we're in favour of nice things and opposed to bad things.

00:03:36.700 --> 00:03:43.500

<v SPEAKER_2>Our foreign and defence policies have been largely

performative, and we've drifted further and further into irrelevance.

00:03:45.560 --> 00:03:56.860

<v SPEAKER_2>What we need to do is to reassert our place on the global scene while dealing with the crise du jour that pop up regularly from Washington.

00:03:56.860 --> 00:04:15.560

<v SPEAKER_2>Now, in a perfect world, we'd be able to take the time for far-reaching consultations on the state of the world, on the threats to Canada, on what opportunities we face as a nation, and how to balance our values and our interests with each other, in our dealings with other countries.

00:04:15.560 --> 00:04:18.800

<v SPEAKER_2>And unfortunately, that's not where we find ourselves today.

00:04:18.800 --> 00:04:24.180

<v SPEAKER_2>The world we're living in is nasty, brutish, and Trump.

00:04:24.180 --> 00:04:28.000

<v SPEAKER_2>And we don't have the luxury of quiet contemplation.

00:04:28.580 --> 00:04:31.600

<v SPEAKER_2>We're facing threats that are existential.

00:04:31.600 --> 00:04:36.080

<v SPEAKER_2>And we need to have a plan and to be executing it today.

00:04:36.120 --> 00:04:48.180

<v SPEAKER_2>Now, to his credit, Mark Carney laid out the broad lines of an approach that's quite different from where we've been in a speech that he gave to the Monk School at the University of Toronto last June.

00:04:48.180 --> 00:04:51.980

<v SPEAKER_2>He recognized, first of all, that we live in a dangerous neighbourhood.

00:04:51.980 --> 00:04:56.740

<v SPEAKER_2>And that we have to take our responsibility for our own defence seriously.

00:04:56.740 --> 00:04:59.460

<v SPEAKER_2>That we need to reduce our reliance on the United States.

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<v SPEAKER_2>And that we need to build new relationships with other democracies.

00:05:03.860 --> 00:05:07.820

<v SPEAKER_2>That we have to shore up international institutions and the rule of law.

00:05:07.820 --> 00:05:14.680

<v SPEAKER_2>And to do any of this successfully, we have to build our economy here at home.

00:05:15.160 --> 00:05:18.280

<v SPEAKER_2>You have to take a much more holistic view.

00:05:18.280 --> 00:05:24.940

<v SPEAKER_2>Weak countries, countries which are not successful economically, are not truly sovereign.

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<v SPEAKER_2>And most of all, he said repeatedly, that the relationship with Washington has been permanently changed by Donald Trump.

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<v SPEAKER_2>We need to de-risk that relationship.

00:05:36.460 --> 00:05:39.460

<v SPEAKER_2>And we need to focus on our sovereignty.

00:05:39.460 --> 00:05:45.840

<v SPEAKER_2>So what's needed now is to flesh out the vision that the Prime Minister set out.

00:05:45.840 --> 00:05:50.620

<v SPEAKER_2>And to put in place concrete policies that will make it a reality.

00:05:50.620 --> 00:06:05.860

<v SPEAKER_2>What I would be doing would be to use Parliament, parliamentary committees and task forces, to look at specific issues like Arctic security or the reform of international institutions and have these very focused studies.

00:06:05.860 --> 00:06:12.380

<v SPEAKER_2>But we need to move ahead quickly based on the broad lines the Prime Minister has set out to address these urgent existential issues.

00:06:12.380 --> 00:06:15.640

<v SPEAKER_2>We don't have the luxury of time.

00:06:15.640 --> 00:06:16.580

<v SPEAKER_1>I think that makes sense.

00:06:16.580 --> 00:06:17.280

<v SPEAKER_1>John, what do you think?

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<v SPEAKER_1>I mean, I see the, I know why we used to do these broad public consultations, especially when a new government came in.

00:06:24.400 --> 00:06:26.340

<v SPEAKER_1>And I thought there was some utility.

00:06:26.340 --> 00:06:31.360

<v SPEAKER_1>But given the situation, as Perrin describes it, focus on particular issues.

00:06:31.360 --> 00:06:34.180

<v SPEAKER_1>You did this with the Afghan Task Force.

00:06:34.180 --> 00:06:43.220

<v SPEAKER_1>But if you have a government that wants more about, put more emphasis on outcomes rather than just process, should we just get on with it?

00:06:43.220 --> 00:06:45.360

<v SPEAKER_3>I don't think we have any choice but to get on with it.

00:06:45.360 --> 00:06:48.160

<v SPEAKER_3>I think Perrin summarized it pretty well.

00:06:48.340 --> 00:06:58.740

<v SPEAKER_3>I mean, any luxury that used to exist, that allowed us to sit back and talk among ourselves is gone.

00:06:58.740 --> 00:07:04.720

<v SPEAKER_3>Every day, there's a new shock coming at us from south of the border, and it's consequential to us.

00:07:04.720 --> 00:07:17.480

<v SPEAKER_3>It's not a shock that the 1979 Iranian Revolution was, it's something that's really close to us and close to home, and potentially threatens our sovereignty as well as our economy.

00:07:18.300 --> 00:07:30.640

<v SPEAKER_3>So I think we simply have to get on with it, and I don't think that there's any great requirement for broad-based multifaceted consultations on this.

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<v SPEAKER_3>We know what's happened.

00:07:32.340 --> 00:07:56.020

<v SPEAKER_3>We know that the world has changed in the long-term from what we've become accustomed to since 1945, and we've just got to start taking the individual practical steps necessary to position ourselves, understanding what our own capacity is, what our interests are, as well as what our values are.

00:07:56.020 --> 00:08:10.360

<v SPEAKER_3>I mean, I would characterize the last number of years, and I'd say going back beyond the ten years of the Trudeau government, as Canada thinking that it had the right to lecture other countries on how to run their affairs.

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<v SPEAKER_3>And we were very good at giving pronouncements, but when it actually came time to be present in meaningful ways, we were absent.

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<v SPEAKER_3>Consequently, we lost two votes at the Security Council, where we sought to be named as a member of the Security Council for a two-year term.

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<v SPEAKER_3>That had never happened before in Canada's history with the UN, but it's happened now to us twice.

00:08:41.340 --> 00:08:44.380

<v SPEAKER_3>Once under the Harper government, once under the Trudeau government.

00:08:44.380 --> 00:08:48.880

<v SPEAKER_3>That's a pretty good proxy for our standing in the world.

00:08:50.440 --> 00:08:54.380

<v SPEAKER_3>I think it's clear what we need to do.

00:08:55.400 --> 00:09:01.140

<v SPEAKER_3>I think Mark Carney set it out very clearly in the speech that Perrin has referred to.

00:09:02.420 --> 00:09:03.860

<v SPEAKER_3>Now, let's get on with it.

00:09:03.860 --> 00:09:08.500

<v SPEAKER_3>Yes, there are going to be some individual segments, Arctic security.

00:09:08.500 --> 00:09:10.660

<v SPEAKER_3>Sure, let's get some work done on those.

00:09:11.660 --> 00:09:18.640

<v SPEAKER_3>Let's face it, the entire defence and security environment is changing so rapidly, you can hardly keep track.

00:09:18.640 --> 00:09:28.440

<v SPEAKER_3>I don't think four years ago that any of our defence specialists would have predicted how the war in Ukraine would unfold.

00:09:28.440 --> 00:09:35.060

<v SPEAKER_3>The importance of cyber and drones, for example, being transformative.

00:09:36.200 --> 00:09:39.780

<v SPEAKER_3>What does that say about what we need in Arctic security?

00:09:40.100 --> 00:09:50.100

<v SPEAKER_3>For example, those are questions that are open, that need to be addressed in a more focused manner than a broad-based foreign policy review could ever hope to do.

00:09:51.360 --> 00:10:06.660

<v SPEAKER_2>I think that John really underscored a key point here, that for too long, we've tended to assume we don't have nukes, so we're not a nuclear superpower, but we're a moral superpower, whose job it is to tell the rest of the world what they're doing wrong.

00:10:07.640 --> 00:10:21.560

<v SPEAKER_2>And we're surprised to discover that others may not appreciate that, that they actually are more interested in people who will roll up their sleeves and get involved in the very difficult work of actually building the international order.

00:10:21.720 --> 00:10:35.740

<v SPEAKER_2>What is so encouraging for me is that Mark Carney has a realistic, coherent, practical view of the role that Canada should be playing, and we should simply get on with it.

00:10:37.000 --> 00:10:44.160

<v SPEAKER_1>And John, as you would put it, we don't get up when the check arrives and go to the bathroom, we actually pay our share.

00:10:44.160 --> 00:10:47.320

<v SPEAKER_3>Well, money is going to be involved in this, let's face it.

00:10:47.320 --> 00:10:50.420

<v SPEAKER_3>Having a presence in the world costs money.

00:10:50.420 --> 00:10:55.220

<v SPEAKER_3>It costs money for diplomats and embassies.

00:10:55.220 --> 00:10:59.820

<v SPEAKER_3>It costs money in foreign aid and foreign engagement.

00:11:00.580 --> 00:11:02.160

<v SPEAKER_3>And it costs money in defence.

00:11:02.860 --> 00:11:08.100

<v SPEAKER_3>And, you know, when you go and talk to, you know, Mr.

00:11:08.100 --> 00:11:08.520

<v SPEAKER_3>and Mrs.

00:11:08.520 --> 00:11:27.020

<v SPEAKER_3>Front Porch in Perrin's old constituency, very often, I think, defence may be changing a little bit, but certainly foreign aid, foreign affairs, even defence, has not ranked high on the list of priorities.

00:11:27.020 --> 00:11:32.540

<v SPEAKER_3>And what that means to me is not that, oh, therefore, we can't do these things.

00:11:32.540 --> 00:11:34.340

<v SPEAKER_3>It means we need leadership.

00:11:34.340 --> 00:11:46.300

<v SPEAKER_3>We need leaders that go out and talk about the challenges that the country is facing and what we need to do in order to secure our own prosperity and well-being in the future.

00:11:46.300 --> 00:11:48.640

<v SPEAKER_3>And that's been lacking.

00:11:49.300 --> 00:11:58.060

<v SPEAKER_3>We convinced ourselves that, you know, we were on third base where we were born, and it's because we hit a triple.

00:11:58.720 --> 00:12:04.060

<v SPEAKER_3>Well, you know, no, we're the most fortunate country on earth.

00:12:04.060 --> 00:12:09.080

<v SPEAKER_3>But that doesn't mean we get to keep it all and do nothing to enhance it.

00:12:10.760 --> 00:12:17.000

<v SPEAKER_1>John, what should be our sort of overriding North Star in

terms of foreign policy?

00:12:17.000 --> 00:12:20.900

<v SPEAKER_1>There's been talk about strategic autonomy, however you want to define it.

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<v SPEAKER_1>Multilateralism has been a key part of it, is the kind of balance to the preponderant US relationship.

00:12:27.760 --> 00:12:30.720

<v SPEAKER_1>We're now looking at coalitions of the willing.

00:12:30.720 --> 00:12:37.240

<v SPEAKER_1>What do you think if we don't do a major foreign policy review, as you said, Mr.

00:12:37.240 --> 00:12:47.240

<v SPEAKER_1>Carney in his monk speech laid out where he wanted Canada to be, and it seemed to me to be a useful power, which is something you've talked about as well, useful nation once again.

00:12:47.240 --> 00:12:49.880

<v SPEAKER_1>Is that what we should aspire to be?

00:12:49.880 --> 00:12:51.720

<v SPEAKER_3>Well, I think that's what we can hope.

00:12:51.720 --> 00:13:05.440

<v SPEAKER_3>We're a middle power, which means that we don't have the capability or the force and ability to project power internationally.

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<v SPEAKER_3>But we're not a small power either, which means we have responsibility.

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<v SPEAKER_3>And I think that what has changed in the last year is that we're no longer, those of us, that's just not just Canada, but many of our European allies as well, and Asian allies are recognizing we no longer can just live under the shadow of the United States.

00:13:32.880 --> 00:13:35.860

<v SPEAKER_3>It's not going to be there for us when we need it.

00:13:35.860 --> 00:13:40.200

<v SPEAKER_3>In fact, it could even be hostile to our interests.

00:13:40.200 --> 00:14:05.440

<v SPEAKER_3>So we need to certainly pursue arrangements, alliances,

agreements with like-minded countries that are in a similar position to ourselves, that share our basic beliefs in liberal democracy, and that can be counted upon to be supportive when we're trying to get things accomplished.

00:14:05.440 --> 00:14:08.540

<v SPEAKER_3>So international alliances have to be there.

00:14:08.540 --> 00:14:18.860

<v SPEAKER_3>We have to put our interests first, and our interest has increasingly become one that's founded in our economic interests.

00:14:18.860 --> 00:14:30.200

<v SPEAKER_3>If we can't afford to do the other things we'd like to do, because our economy is sputtering and we're not realizing the prosperity that we've been bequeathed, then that's our fault.

00:14:30.200 --> 00:14:30.880

<v SPEAKER_3>That's on us.

00:14:30.880 --> 00:14:33.320

<v SPEAKER_3>That's not Donald Trump's problem.

00:14:33.320 --> 00:14:38.300

<v SPEAKER_3>So I think those are all things that we need to take on hand.

00:14:38.300 --> 00:14:40.160

<v SPEAKER_1>Perrin, we do have the capacity as a country.

00:14:40.280 --> 00:14:44.680

<v SPEAKER_1>You know, you and John have both led our major business organizations.

00:14:44.680 --> 00:15:00.480

<v SPEAKER_1>Are you confident that we have the capacity, given our resources, given our talent, given the markets that we still can get access to, to be able to achieve and diversify markets and prosper?

00:15:00.480 --> 00:15:08.180

<v SPEAKER_2>Colin, for all of our problems, we should never lose sight of the fact that Canadians are the most fortunate people on the face of the earth.

00:15:09.240 --> 00:15:28.600

<v SPEAKER_2>If you look at our resource inheritance, if you look at our history, if you look at our proximity to the world's largest market, if you look at our reputation in the world, there's virtually no other country in the world that isn't envious of the building blocks that Canada has.

00:15:29.620 --> 00:15:33.420

<v SPEAKER_2>We have a highly educated population, the work ethic still applies.

00:15:33.420 --> 00:15:45.820

<v SPEAKER_2>We have been successful up until very lately in being able to bring the best and brightest in the world to Canada and to integrate them well into Canadian life.

00:15:45.820 --> 00:15:48.580

<v SPEAKER_2>All of these are enormous advantages for us.

00:15:48.580 --> 00:15:59.280

<v SPEAKER_2>And what has been needed is the vision, the leadership, the determination to make it happen and the understanding that the time has come for us to make our own way in the world.

00:15:59.280 --> 00:16:06.000

<v SPEAKER_2>That instead of, if you look at our history, we've tended to rely on other countries.

00:16:06.280 --> 00:16:12.300

<v SPEAKER_2>First of all, Great Britain and then the United States for our security and for our prosperity.

00:16:14.080 --> 00:16:29.520

<v SPEAKER_2>We may, a generation from now, be grateful to Donald Trump and find January of 2025 as the day that is the time when Canada decided to become truly sovereign and to take our own future into our own hands.

00:16:29.520 --> 00:16:32.220

<v SPEAKER_2>So, you know, what should our North Star be?

00:16:32.220 --> 00:16:33.600

<v SPEAKER_2>What should our priority be?

00:16:34.560 --> 00:16:47.000

<v SPEAKER_2>Since the, since pre-Confederation days, the one consistent thread that has run through Canadian history has been the building and the sustaining of Canadian nationhood.

00:16:47.000 --> 00:16:49.800

<v SPEAKER_2>That needs to be at the core of everything we do as a country.

00:16:49.800 --> 00:16:51.840

<v SPEAKER_2>Anything else is negotiable.

00:16:51.840 --> 00:17:05.800

<v SPEAKER_2>But promoting Canada's strength, looking at what makes us stronger, what makes us more sovereign, what makes us more prosperous, what makes us more secure, what makes us more respected in the world, that's got to be at the core.

00:17:05.800 --> 00:17:08.460

<v SPEAKER_2>Everything else is secondary.

00:17:08.460 --> 00:17:18.060

<v SPEAKER_1>John, you've described our natural resources, whether I'm talking food or fertilizer or energy, as the kind of crown jewels of the natural inheritance.

00:17:18.060 --> 00:17:25.220

<v SPEAKER_1>We can feed and fuel the world while meeting our climate obligations.

00:17:25.220 --> 00:17:32.420

<v SPEAKER_1>But in the last decade, plus we don't seem to have been able to manage that, can we overcome those barriers?

00:17:33.420 --> 00:17:34.400

<v SPEAKER_3>Well, we have to.

00:17:34.400 --> 00:17:38.240

<v SPEAKER_3>I mean, Colin, this is the most frustrating thing.

00:17:39.580 --> 00:17:41.140

<v SPEAKER_3>Think about this.

00:17:41.140 --> 00:17:43.440

<v SPEAKER_3>I'll just give you some examples.

00:17:43.440 --> 00:17:50.960

<v SPEAKER_3>Since the mid 2000s, Canada's share of global direct investment has declined sharply.

00:17:52.440 --> 00:17:58.460

<v SPEAKER_3>Business investment per worker in Canada lags the United States by 30 to 40 percent.

00:17:58.460 --> 00:18:07.680

<v SPEAKER_3>Major projects in Canada, according to the OECD, take 2 to 3 times longer to approve than in our peer countries.

00:18:07.680 --> 00:18:16.380

<v SPEAKER_3>Political approval of a project in Canada does not equate to regulatory certainty.

00:18:16.380 --> 00:18:21.340

<v SPEAKER_3>Internal trade barriers cost us tens of billions annually.

00:18:21.340 --> 00:18:25.580

<v SPEAKER_3>Let's face it, it was not Donald Trump that prevented poor Mr.

00:18:25.580 --> 00:18:29.840

<v SPEAKER_3>Colmo from bringing a case of beer back from Quebec into New Brunswick.

00:18:30.420 --> 00:18:35.020

<v SPEAKER_3>Those are Canadian laws enforced by Canadian courts.

00:18:35.020 --> 00:18:54.100

<v SPEAKER_3>So these are all things that we live with day to day, happily going about our business, feeling satisfied that we're in an admirable position in the world, and we're doing this to ourselves.

00:18:54.100 --> 00:19:04.580

<v SPEAKER_3>There is no problem in Canada that could not be solved without more money, health care, education, whatever your priorities happen to be.

00:19:04.580 --> 00:19:06.440

<v SPEAKER_3>We need more money.

00:19:06.440 --> 00:19:09.800

<v SPEAKER_3>Well, if we're going to get more money, we need to grow the economy.

00:19:09.800 --> 00:19:12.040

<v SPEAKER_3>We need to get the pie to be bigger.

00:19:12.040 --> 00:19:13.960

<v SPEAKER_3>It's not a matter of how we divide it up.

00:19:13.960 --> 00:19:15.480

<v SPEAKER_3>It's a matter of growing it.

00:19:15.480 --> 00:19:19.340

<v SPEAKER_3>These things are within our own control.

00:19:19.340 --> 00:19:37.260

<v SPEAKER_3>And if I had one piece of advice to give to Mark Carney, because I'm so happy we've got a leader who actually, I think, understands this today, understands the economy, understands what's required and understands what needs to be said about Canada's role in the world, my advice would be this.

00:19:37.260 --> 00:19:44.100

<v SPEAKER_3>Take a page out of FDR's book and start giving the country a series of fireside chats.

00:19:44.100 --> 00:19:56.300

<v SPEAKER_3>Make sure that the country knows what we're facing, how serious it is, and how important it is that we respond, not some time in the future, now.

00:19:56.300 --> 00:20:08.920

<v SPEAKER_3>I feel that some of the energy that we felt in the early part of 2025 that came into the country in the wake of Donald Trump talking about 51st state has dissipated.

00:20:08.920 --> 00:20:11.140

<v SPEAKER_3>We're not talking about internal trade barriers anymore.

00:20:11.140 --> 00:20:16.060

<v SPEAKER_3>We've done nothing on them, even though they were going to be all gone by July 1st.

00:20:16.060 --> 00:20:19.180

<v SPEAKER_3>Well, the federal ones, there weren't very many anyway, are all gone.

00:20:19.760 --> 00:20:26.480

<v SPEAKER_3>But not only can you not buy American booze in Ontario, you can't buy BC wine.

00:20:26.480 --> 00:20:28.300

<v SPEAKER_3>What is our problem?

00:20:28.300 --> 00:20:32.560

<v SPEAKER_3>That we can't conduct ourselves like one big economy.

00:20:32.560 --> 00:20:33.960

<v SPEAKER_3>It would be a big economy.

00:20:33.960 --> 00:20:36.300

<v SPEAKER_3>It would be one of the largest in the world.

00:20:37.360 --> 00:20:44.640

<v SPEAKER_1>Perrin, is the problem in part provincial governments or is it just an ability at the federal level?

00:20:44.640 --> 00:20:46.740

<v SPEAKER_1>You led the Canadian Chamber for a number of years.

00:20:46.740 --> 00:20:59.260

<v SPEAKER_1>It seems to me that the business people want to be able to do business and that as John says, it's business that generates the profits that allow us to then reinvest in health and education.

00:20:59.260 --> 00:21:01.640

<v SPEAKER_2>Colin, there's plenty of blame to go around.

00:21:01.640 --> 00:21:28.760

<v SPEAKER_2>Certainly, the federal government has fallen short in terms of doing what's necessary to dismantle barriers and to put in place infrastructure, to reform a sclerotic regulatory system that prevents, where you get decision by delay and by default, where backers of the proponents of a project simply walk away because they're mired in the system and can't move ahead.

00:21:28.760 --> 00:21:33.540

<v SPEAKER_2>You've got provincial governments that are provincial.

00:21:33.540 --> 00:21:45.760

<v SPEAKER_2>They don't look beyond their borders so very often, and they play to the local constituency rather than looking at what we need to do as Canadians to create a single market in Canada.

00:21:45.760 --> 00:21:49.360

<v SPEAKER_2>And the business community is not without blame either.

00:21:49.360 --> 00:21:53.780

<v SPEAKER_2>We under-invest relative to the rest of the world.

00:21:53.780 --> 00:21:58.620

<v SPEAKER_2>We under-invest in people that is in upgrading the skills of our workforce.

00:21:58.620 --> 00:22:04.220

<v SPEAKER_2>We under-invest in ideas and research and development.

00:22:04.220 --> 00:22:09.540

<v SPEAKER_2>We under-invest in things, the machinery and equipment, that make our workforce efficient.

00:22:09.540 --> 00:22:13.120

<v SPEAKER_2>And so there's plenty of blame to go around.

00:22:13.120 --> 00:22:13.900

<v SPEAKER_2>What is essential?

00:22:14.720 --> 00:22:25.480

<v SPEAKER_2>And I agree with John, that it seems as if some of the consensus momentum that we had shortly after the inauguration last year has dissipated.

00:22:25.480 --> 00:22:31.460

<v SPEAKER_2>And people are trying to go back to business as usual, to an extent.

00:22:31.460 --> 00:22:51.040

<v SPEAKER_2>The challenge for Mark Carney is to explain to Canadians that we are facing existential challenges and that we require a complete transformation of our economic and political system and a transformation of our dealings with the rest of the world, starting with the United States.

00:22:51.040 --> 00:22:53.020

<v SPEAKER_2>This is in our hands.

00:22:53.020 --> 00:23:02.800

<v SPEAKER_2>This reminds me of Shakespeare, where he said, the fault, dear Brutus, is not in our stars, but in ourselves, that we are underlings.

00:23:03.400 --> 00:23:07.920

<v SPEAKER_2>We need to decide ourselves that we are going to be a truly sovereign nation.

00:23:07.920 --> 00:23:16.620

<v SPEAKER_2>We need to decide for ourselves that we are going to be competitive and that we are going to improve the standards of living, and we need to act on it.

00:23:16.620 --> 00:23:21.960

<v SPEAKER_2>If we don't do that, then we have nobody to blame but ourselves.

00:23:21.960 --> 00:23:25.340

<v SPEAKER_4>Hi, I'm Dave Perry, the President and CEO of the Canadian Global Affairs Institute.

00:23:25.340 --> 00:23:29.980

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00:23:29.980 --> 00:23:38.840

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00:23:38.840 --> 00:23:44.080

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00:23:46.940 --> 00:23:49.740

<v SPEAKER_1>John, I certainly concur with your idea about fireside chats.

00:23:49.740 --> 00:23:57.200

<v SPEAKER_1>I've just finished rereading David Kennedy's Magnum Opus, Freedom and Democracy, which is about the FDR era.

00:23:57.200 --> 00:24:14.880

<v SPEAKER_1>And, you know, the difference it made in bringing public opinion along with them, even though not necessarily Congress or business leadership was with them, but it did have its effect and we still have the capacity to deliver speeches, which we pay attention to.

00:24:14.880 --> 00:24:19.160

<v SPEAKER_1>I want to move though, Perrin talked about talent.

00:24:19.160 --> 00:24:33.380

<v SPEAKER_1>We have been an anomaly in many ways over recent years in that there was strong public support for immigration in this country, whether we're talking about students, we're talking about immigrants, but that has dissipated in recent years.

00:24:33.380 --> 00:24:35.080

<v SPEAKER_1>How do we sustain public support?

00:24:35.080 --> 00:24:37.220

<v SPEAKER_1>Because I think we still need talent.

00:24:39.340 --> 00:24:47.820

<v SPEAKER_3>I think you need to change the discussion from one about demographics and population to one about talent.

00:24:49.380 --> 00:25:08.340

<v SPEAKER_3>I think we allowed ourselves to drift into this notion that we were using immigration in order to fuel our economy because larger population increases demand for goods and services.

00:25:08.340 --> 00:25:10.460

<v SPEAKER_3>That creates economic growth.

00:25:10.460 --> 00:25:13.060

<v SPEAKER_3>All of that is true, by the way, of course.

00:25:13.060 --> 00:25:17.280

<v SPEAKER_3>But I think we don't talk enough about it as the source of talent.

00:25:18.660 --> 00:25:32.140

<v SPEAKER_3>You know, I think just as there's been some effort, I know, on the part of the Minister of Industry, Melanie Jolie, to identify talent to bring to Canada.

00:25:32.140 --> 00:25:33.800

<v SPEAKER_3>I think that's good.

00:25:33.800 --> 00:25:35.580

<v SPEAKER_3>I'd go farther, though.

00:25:35.580 --> 00:25:44.440

<v SPEAKER_3>I would say, you know, we have this special projects office under Don Farrell, headquartered in Calgary, to get really big projects done.

00:25:45.300 --> 00:26:05.380

<v SPEAKER_3>I'd like to have an equivalent of Don Farrell for talented people, to bring them to Canada, to allow them to enter Canada without being burdened with the heavy paperwork and uncertainty that our system now creates for them.

00:26:05.380 --> 00:26:18.300

<v SPEAKER_3>There's been no ability in the bureaucratic approach to immigration to distinguish between a potential Nobel Prize winner and somebody who's just coming in to the family class.

00:26:20.120 --> 00:26:31.460

<v SPEAKER_3>I mean, I've had personal experience with trying to get highly qualified physicians' permission to enter Canada and who ended up being frustrated and going away.

00:26:31.460 --> 00:26:34.760

<v SPEAKER_3>So I think we need to approach it as a talent question.

00:26:34.760 --> 00:26:41.420

<v SPEAKER_3>And I think the Canadians will buy that, that we're, you know, this is how we build the country.

00:26:41.420 --> 00:26:48.180

<v SPEAKER_3>We get the best and the brightest from around the world to come and share in our common task with us.

00:26:49.900 --> 00:26:51.800

<v SPEAKER_1>Perrin, feel free to come in on this.

00:26:51.800 --> 00:27:09.640

<v SPEAKER_1>But my main big question to you, though, is you've been leading with Fen Hampson in recent months, a group of Canada US experts, of which I'm quite proud to be a member, dealing with the

elephant in the room, which of course is the Trump-led America.

00:27:09.640 --> 00:27:23.520

<v SPEAKER_1>Your advice in terms of foreign policy to the government on dealing with America as it is becoming more apparent to us, quite a different America than the one we knew for the past 80 years.

00:27:24.300 --> 00:27:26.840

<v SPEAKER_2>Colin, can I comment first on the immigration issue?

00:27:26.840 --> 00:27:27.500

<v SPEAKER_2>Please.

00:27:27.500 --> 00:27:29.440

<v SPEAKER_2>Because it is a vital one for us.

00:27:29.440 --> 00:27:42.680

<v SPEAKER_2>You really set the scene well by saying that at least until recently, Canada was one of very few countries in the world where a majority of people saw immigration as a net plus as opposed to a net minus.

00:27:42.680 --> 00:27:51.060

<v SPEAKER_2>As the rest of the world were closing their doors and turning inward, Canada was still seeing being open to the world as being something as positive.

00:27:52.040 --> 00:28:01.400

<v SPEAKER_2>One of the reasons for that is that all of us are either immigrants ourselves or the descendants of immigrants with the exception of the First Nations.

00:28:02.680 --> 00:28:05.840

<v SPEAKER_2>That was a great competitive advantage for us.

00:28:05.840 --> 00:28:09.760

<v SPEAKER_2>John's absolutely right that we need to look at the quality of the immigration we have.

00:28:09.760 --> 00:28:11.800

<v SPEAKER_2>Who is it that we're bringing to Canada?

00:28:12.560 --> 00:28:18.700

<v SPEAKER_2>Are we focusing on the people who can make the greatest contribution to Canada, to our economy, our society, and so on?

00:28:20.320 --> 00:28:23.380

<v SPEAKER_2>We should have been doing that well before now.

00:28:24.720 --> 00:28:30.000

<v SPEAKER_2>Our competitive advantage increased dramatically as others closed their doors.

00:28:30.000 --> 00:28:41.240

<v SPEAKER_2>It gave us the favorite position where we could cherry pick around the world if we had done so, to get the very best and the brightest in the world to come to Canada to help us to build this country.

00:28:41.240 --> 00:28:47.940

<v SPEAKER_2>Instead, what we saw was an immigration policy often driven by domestic politics.

00:28:48.800 --> 00:29:02.600

<v SPEAKER_2>As opposed to looking at what the needs of the country were, that saw simply overwhelming the capacity of the country to absorb people and to fully integrate them economically, culturally and politically.

00:29:02.660 --> 00:29:18.220

<v SPEAKER_2>And as a result, then, we've seen a backlash against all immigration in Canada that in the short term is going to make it very difficult for us to have the advantages that immigration can give us.

00:29:18.220 --> 00:29:21.700

<v SPEAKER_2>The first thing in the short term is obviously the government has to rebalance.

00:29:23.300 --> 00:29:29.160

<v SPEAKER_2>We have to take the time to be able to absorb the people who are here today and to fully integrate them.

00:29:29.540 --> 00:29:30.680

<v SPEAKER_2>But John is absolutely right.

00:29:30.800 --> 00:29:48.220

<v SPEAKER_2>We also need to revisit the fundamentals of our policy to say who is it that we want to bring to Canada and how do they make the greatest contribution to our country, make us more competitive, make us more successful as a nation, and we can do that.

00:29:48.220 --> 00:29:53.740

<v SPEAKER_2>Then the question you actually asked me, I believe, was how do we deal with Trump?

00:29:58.460 --> 00:30:02.040

<v SPEAKER_2>We really have to have a two-track policy.

00:30:02.040 --> 00:30:08.080

<v SPEAKER_2>The first is what we talked about at the beginning, and

that's how does Canada see itself in the world?

00:30:08.080 --> 00:30:10.340

<v SPEAKER_2>What are our key goals?

00:30:11.380 --> 00:30:22.580

<v SPEAKER_2>One of the most important ones being the sovereignty of Canada, the independence of Canada, the shoring up our security and our capacity as a nation and our role in the world.

00:30:23.300 --> 00:30:31.660

<v SPEAKER_2>But the other one, and the most difficult challenge for the Prime Minister, is managing the situation in the Oval Office day to day.

00:30:31.660 --> 00:30:40.280

<v SPEAKER_2>I was a member of the cabinet of the most pro-American administration in the history of Canada, but it was much easier to do.

00:30:41.400 --> 00:30:48.680

<v SPEAKER_2>We had a president in Washington and a prime minister in Ottawa who genuinely liked each other.

00:30:48.680 --> 00:30:56.820

<v SPEAKER_2>They shared similar values, and both of them believed strongly that what was good for one of the countries was good for the other.

00:30:56.820 --> 00:31:03.840

<v SPEAKER_2>It was inconceivable that either of our countries would deliberately attempt to damage the other.

00:31:03.840 --> 00:31:15.560

<v SPEAKER_2>Our policies as a result were based on that premise, that there was a symbiosis, a natural harmony between the two countries that would always bring us closer together and benefit both of us.

00:31:15.560 --> 00:31:21.180

<v SPEAKER_2>All of that has changed, and Mark Carney has been underscoring that often in the speeches that he gives.

00:31:23.640 --> 00:31:29.080

<v SPEAKER_2>In the short term, for the next three years, he has to manage this relationship.

00:31:29.080 --> 00:31:55.140

<v SPEAKER_2>We're dealing not with an ordinary president, and I stress here that our argument, our disagreement is with the administration in Washington, not with the American people who remain open and friendly and welcoming and who see Canada in a positive way,

but with a president and administration who believe that Canada should not exist as an independent nation.

00:31:55.140 --> 00:32:11.760

<v SPEAKER_2>And we're dealing with somebody who is impulsive in what he does, who is egotistical, and who is more akin to an angry teenager with a can of gasoline and a box of matches in his hands than he is to any of his predecessors.

00:32:11.760 --> 00:32:33.820

<v SPEAKER_2>And just as if we were dealing with that teenager, the priority for us would be how do we manage him to avoid catastrophe, that has to be the priority for the Prime Minister and his dealings in Washington, while at the same time keeping an eye on where is it we want to go, how do we make ourselves more sovereign, stronger, more independent, more respected in the world.

00:32:33.820 --> 00:32:35.980

<v SPEAKER_2>He needs to balance the two.

00:32:37.640 --> 00:32:41.820

<v SPEAKER_1>John, your advice on dealing with Trump-led America?

00:32:43.640 --> 00:32:47.300

<v SPEAKER_3>Well, I think Perrin has given us a good description of it.

00:32:47.340 --> 00:32:50.040

<v SPEAKER_3>I mean, we can't manage it.

00:32:50.040 --> 00:32:54.680

<v SPEAKER_3>We can only respond to it, and every day is a new thing.

00:32:56.400 --> 00:33:05.040

<v SPEAKER_3>I think overall, we're best to just stay cool and do the things that we have control over.

00:33:05.040 --> 00:33:06.760

<v SPEAKER_3>We can't control him.

00:33:06.760 --> 00:33:18.880

<v SPEAKER_3>Fortunately, he has a very short attention span, so when he says things that are threatening to us, it's best to just let a little time pass because he'll move on to threatening somebody else.

00:33:18.880 --> 00:33:26.220

<v SPEAKER_3>But meanwhile, I think we have to recognize that he has a very large and vocal following in his country.

00:33:26.220 --> 00:33:38.720

<v SPEAKER_3>Regardless of what happens in the midterms later this year, or in the next presidential election, two years after that, there are a lot of MAGA followers.

00:33:38.720 --> 00:33:49.160

<v SPEAKER_3>There are MAGA followers in Canada that are making increasing amounts of noise, especially in certain parts of the country.

00:33:49.160 --> 00:33:57.720

<v SPEAKER_3>This is far from the consensus that has predominated in Canada over many, many years.

00:33:57.720 --> 00:34:08.960

<v SPEAKER_3>I think that we're best to just keep cool, try to address building our economy as independently as we can.

00:34:08.960 --> 00:34:10.080

<v SPEAKER_3>Do not provoke him.

00:34:10.360 --> 00:34:20.620

<v SPEAKER_3>I think you saw some reaction to Mark Carney's response on the invasion of Venezuela.

00:34:23.400 --> 00:34:27.480

<v SPEAKER_3>People saying he should have been more forceful, he should have been more critical.

00:34:29.200 --> 00:34:32.840

<v SPEAKER_3>My reaction was that he had bigger fish to fry.

00:34:34.020 --> 00:34:50.240

<v SPEAKER_3>What was going on in Venezuela was going on in Venezuela, and what matters to Mark Carney's Canada right now is not to become the focus of negative attention in Washington.

00:34:50.240 --> 00:35:19.380

<v SPEAKER_3>Keep working on the trade agreement, keep working on the importance of the ties that bind us, keep focused on the Canadian economy, find company if you want to say something, which he did with the Europeans and others, and just wait, this too shall pass to in some measure, not entirely because the strength of that movement is not to be underestimated.

00:35:19.380 --> 00:35:36.580

<v SPEAKER_3>But I think the appetite on an ongoing basis for persistent exaggeration and lie is going to be, that patience is going to be exhausted sooner or later.

00:35:38.000 --> 00:35:51.580

<v SPEAKER_1>John, stay with me because I want to talk about the two biggest countries in the world, or that is largest population with big economies, China and India, with whom our relations have been tenuous at best in recent years.

00:35:51.580 --> 00:35:54.640

<v SPEAKER_1>How do we deal with them in a broad foreign policy review?

00:35:54.640 --> 00:35:56.680

<v SPEAKER_1>The Prime Minister is heading to China.

00:35:56.680 --> 00:36:03.820

<v SPEAKER_1>He plans to lead a Team Canada mission later this year to these parts of Asia and maybe other places.

00:36:04.780 --> 00:36:07.460

<v SPEAKER_1>How do we deal with China and India?

00:36:07.520 --> 00:36:10.460

<v SPEAKER_3>I think we keep focused on our interests.

00:36:10.780 --> 00:36:24.940

<v SPEAKER_3>I think that we need to understand that there is no economic diversification strategy available to us on planet Earth that does not include China and India.

00:36:26.340 --> 00:36:33.660

<v SPEAKER_3>So either we want to just move into the American Empire, and maybe we'd be better to be part of them.

00:36:33.660 --> 00:36:35.520

<v SPEAKER_3>At least we get to vote.

00:36:36.860 --> 00:36:41.300

<v SPEAKER_3>Or we build our economy based on diversification.

00:36:41.300 --> 00:36:44.040

<v SPEAKER_3>That to me includes China and India.

00:36:44.360 --> 00:36:46.240

<v SPEAKER_3>There's no alternative to it.

00:36:46.240 --> 00:36:54.720

<v SPEAKER_3>So when we're dealing with China, no, we don't have to support their measures against the Uighurs.

00:36:55.500 --> 00:37:01.620

<v SPEAKER_3>But nor do we have to spend all of our oxygen in that relationship on condemning it.

00:37:03.300 --> 00:37:05.400
<v SPEAKER_3>Likewise with the Indians.

00:37:05.400 --> 00:37:13.820
<v SPEAKER_3>I mean, we don't want to look for ways to embarrass the Prime Minister of India when we want to build that relationship.

00:37:15.640 --> 00:37:22.320
<v SPEAKER_3>President Biden, in a similar circumstance to that in which Justin Trudeau found himself, handled it completely differently.

00:37:23.660 --> 00:37:35.260
<v SPEAKER_3>And didn't create the same backlash that Canada did by being so overreaching and prescriptive dealing with another country.

00:37:35.300 --> 00:37:49.720
<v SPEAKER_3>My former boss, your neighbor, Jean Chrétien, loves to point out that the Canadian media was always on him demanding what he was going to know, what he was going to say to the Chinese about human rights.

00:37:49.720 --> 00:38:03.780
<v SPEAKER_3>And he would say, you want me, the leader of a country of 35 million, to tell the leader of a country of 1.3 billion what to do, but you don't want me to go to the Premier of Saskatchewan and tell him what to do?

00:38:03.860 --> 00:38:06.700
<v SPEAKER_3>Well, how does this make any sense?

00:38:06.700 --> 00:38:11.500
<v SPEAKER_3>So I'll spare you my Jean Chrétien imitation.

00:38:12.460 --> 00:38:15.540
<v SPEAKER_3>But the point is this.

00:38:15.540 --> 00:38:24.340
<v SPEAKER_3>This is where being a middle power, not assuming that we are a mighty power comes in.

00:38:24.920 --> 00:38:31.100
<v SPEAKER_3>We have to understand what we can accomplish and what we need to accomplish for our people.

00:38:31.740 --> 00:38:35.640
<v SPEAKER_3>So we need to keep focused on those things.

00:38:35.640 --> 00:38:37.700
<v SPEAKER_1>Perrin?

00:38:37.700 --> 00:38:42.620

<v SPEAKER_2>Colin, I think it's hard to believe it's only been a year or so.

00:38:42.760 --> 00:38:45.360

<v SPEAKER_2>It's worth thinking back to a year ago today.

00:38:45.360 --> 00:38:46.260

<v SPEAKER_2>Where were we?

00:38:46.260 --> 00:38:56.500

<v SPEAKER_2>What we had was a fraught relationship with the three most populous countries on the face of the earth, with the United States, with India and with China.

00:38:56.500 --> 00:39:05.740

<v SPEAKER_2>That's not a good starting point to have as you're looking to build your country and to enhance your security and your sovereignty.

00:39:05.740 --> 00:39:06.920

<v SPEAKER_2>And John is absolutely right.

00:39:07.260 --> 00:39:11.300

<v SPEAKER_2>We need to be able to engage carefully with these other countries.

00:39:11.440 --> 00:39:35.340

<v SPEAKER_2>I guess one caveat that I would put on this for how we engage is that our relationship with countries like India and China have to be driven by what are the national interests of Canada as opposed to what are the domestic political interests vis-a-vis the diaspora within Canada of those countries.

00:39:35.340 --> 00:39:41.040

<v SPEAKER_2>And we have to have a very clear sense of what Canada's interest is.

00:39:41.040 --> 00:39:51.560

<v SPEAKER_2>In the case of China, we shouldn't mistake China for a friend, an ally, a partner in the broadest sense.

00:39:51.560 --> 00:39:52.640

<v SPEAKER_2>They are a competitor.

00:39:53.200 --> 00:39:55.840

<v SPEAKER_2>They are an adversary in many ways.

00:39:55.840 --> 00:40:01.740

<v SPEAKER_2>And their system of government is existentially different from ours.

00:40:01.740 --> 00:40:04.060

<v SPEAKER_2>We need to understand that.

00:40:04.060 --> 00:40:26.560

<v SPEAKER_2>But it makes sense for us to engage in selective engagement, where we ask ourselves, where is it in Canada's interest to engage, for example, in dealing with environmental issues, or in dealing with controlling pandemics, in trade, and in a whole range of other areas, where we look at where does Canada's interest lie.

00:40:26.560 --> 00:40:45.060

<v SPEAKER_2>But what we must not do is to go back to believing that somehow anything that we do in Canada is going to cause the Chinese government to reform its policies, to suddenly become model citizens in international relations, or to respect human rights at home.

00:40:45.060 --> 00:40:52.160

<v SPEAKER_2>We have to deal with them as they are, and have a clear understanding as to whether it advances Canada's interests or not.

00:40:52.160 --> 00:41:03.980

<v SPEAKER_2>And we have to always be on our guard against such things as interference by China, or by India for that matter, in the domestic political affairs of Canada.

00:41:05.020 --> 00:41:12.520

<v SPEAKER_1>Now John anticipated my last question, which was going to be if Prime Minister Carney turned to you and said, give me one piece of advice about what to do.

00:41:12.560 --> 00:41:24.680

<v SPEAKER_1>John said, it's a fireside chance to describe the situation we're in, similar to what FDR did and where he's taking us, which I think makes an awful lot of sense and has been tried and proven in the past.

00:41:24.680 --> 00:41:30.540

<v SPEAKER_1>Perrin, what would you, if Prime Minister says, one piece of advice relating to Canada?

00:41:30.540 --> 00:41:36.340

<v SPEAKER_1>Because as we know, foreign policy and domestic policy increasingly are intermestic.

00:41:36.900 --> 00:41:49.880

<v SPEAKER_2>My advice would be very similar to John's, but let me set the stage by saying, I'm encouraged that for the first time in a

decade, it appears that we have adults in charge in Ottawa.

00:41:49.880 --> 00:42:00.080

<v SPEAKER_2>That the Prime Minister has an understanding of the need to get our economic house in order, he has an understanding of the basic relationship with the United States and with other countries as well.

00:42:01.320 --> 00:42:06.520

<v SPEAKER_2>He's prepared to make fundamental change, that change is essential.

00:42:07.640 --> 00:42:15.340

<v SPEAKER_2>But my advice to him would be, you need to be absolutely candid with Canadians about how serious the issues are that we face.

00:42:15.340 --> 00:42:20.720

<v SPEAKER_2>You need to set out a very clear vision for where we want to go and how we get there.

00:42:20.720 --> 00:42:30.740

<v SPEAKER_2>And you need to have the political strength, the political determination to be able to continue under all sorts of pressure.

00:42:33.060 --> 00:42:37.940

<v SPEAKER_2>This is a moment of existential crisis, but it's also a moment of opportunity for Canada.

00:42:37.940 --> 00:42:51.220

<v SPEAKER_2>If we do it right, we could come out of the situation more prosperous, more secure, more respected in the world, stronger, and more sovereign as a consequence.

00:42:51.220 --> 00:43:00.360

<v SPEAKER_2>But it requires, first of all, frankness in talking directly to the Canadian people as adults and saying, these are the challenges we face.

00:43:00.360 --> 00:43:02.040

<v SPEAKER_2>It won't be easy.

00:43:02.040 --> 00:43:03.600

<v SPEAKER_2>These are the solutions I'm proposing.

00:43:03.680 --> 00:43:05.720

<v SPEAKER_2>I need your help.

00:43:05.720 --> 00:43:06.360

<v SPEAKER_1>All right.

00:43:06.360 --> 00:43:07.380
<v SPEAKER_1>Good advice.

00:43:07.380 --> 00:43:09.720
<v SPEAKER_1>My last question, and John, you lead on this.

00:43:09.720 --> 00:43:16.540
<v SPEAKER_1>What are you reading or streaming these days, and what do you recommend to our listeners to read or stream to understand the world we're living in?

00:43:17.980 --> 00:43:20.040
<v SPEAKER_3>Well, I'll answer that last part first.

00:43:20.040 --> 00:43:21.200
<v SPEAKER_3>I'm actually reading two things.

00:43:21.200 --> 00:43:29.300
<v SPEAKER_3>One is Anne Applebaum's Autocracy Inc, which I do not recommend you read just before bedtime.

00:43:31.480 --> 00:43:49.500
<v SPEAKER_3>It's very anxiety-producing, but a very good analysis of what's happening in the world around us with the growth of autocrats in multiple countries, including the US, and what it is that motivates them and links them.

00:43:50.420 --> 00:44:18.460
<v SPEAKER_3>The second thing that I'm reading, which is far more enjoyable because it all took place hundreds of years ago and therefore, it's not an immediate threat, but it's written by a wonderful book by our former colleague on the Canadian Global Affairs Institute Advisory Council, Madelaine Drohan, who wrote about Benjamin Franklin and his great interest in Canada, and it's entitled He Did Not Conquer.

00:44:18.460 --> 00:44:37.060
<v SPEAKER_3>And it's enlightening to say the least, not just about Benjamin Franklin and his aspirations for Canada, but I've been learning a few things that I probably should have known about Canadian history and the geographic distribution of our territory that I didn't know.

00:44:37.060 --> 00:44:37.740
<v SPEAKER_1>All right.

00:44:37.740 --> 00:44:38.880
<v SPEAKER_1>Excellent recommendations.

00:44:38.880 --> 00:44:41.400
<v SPEAKER_1>Perrin, what about you?

00:44:41.400 --> 00:44:47.840
<v SPEAKER_2>Colin, I suspect I'm like you these days, although I admire the fact that you actually find the time to read books.

00:44:47.840 --> 00:44:55.780
<v SPEAKER_2>I'm constantly being driven to reading newspaper articles or magazine pieces on current events.

00:44:55.780 --> 00:45:03.660
<v SPEAKER_2>But one of the things I did this time last year was to buy Garry Wills' book about James Madison, the US president.

00:45:03.660 --> 00:45:08.100
<v SPEAKER_2>I didn't get around to reading it because there were other events overtook that.

00:45:08.100 --> 00:45:21.500
<v SPEAKER_2>That's a priority for me to get to now, to look at this formative period in the shaping of the United States and its relationship with Canada and to get a better understanding of some of the roots of where we are today.

00:45:21.500 --> 00:45:26.400
<v SPEAKER_1>All right, Perrin, I don't want you to leave us without telling us about the new book you and Fen Hampson have written.

00:45:26.400 --> 00:45:29.060
<v SPEAKER_1>What's the title and what's it about?

00:45:29.060 --> 00:45:34.600
<v SPEAKER_1>It'll be something I want listeners to buy when it comes out, when it's published.

00:45:34.600 --> 00:45:37.620
<v SPEAKER_2>Colin, we have finished the draft of our book.

00:45:37.620 --> 00:45:44.380
<v SPEAKER_2>It's in the hands of the publisher and he has sent it out to readers to take a look at and to provide a critique of it.

00:45:44.380 --> 00:45:46.340
<v SPEAKER_2>We'll do a final revision of it.

00:45:46.580 --> 00:45:54.040
<v SPEAKER_2>It's working title is Canada Rising from Chaos to Renewal.

00:45:54.040 --> 00:45:56.860

<v SPEAKER_2>It is, at the end of the day, hopeful.

00:45:56.860 --> 00:46:02.920

<v SPEAKER_2>It sets out the challenges we're facing as a country, but also the opportunities that we have.

00:46:03.860 --> 00:46:13.680

<v SPEAKER_2>It tries to make the point that if we have the vision and the wisdom to take our future in our own hands, we can build something that's stronger, more prosperous and better than we've had in the past.

00:46:15.380 --> 00:46:15.720

<v SPEAKER_1>All right.

00:46:15.720 --> 00:46:20.420

<v SPEAKER_1>Well, we will look forward to Canada Rising working title whenever it comes out.

00:46:20.560 --> 00:46:21.920

<v SPEAKER_1>When is the publication?

00:46:21.920 --> 00:46:23.340

<v SPEAKER_1>This fall?

00:46:23.340 --> 00:46:26.780

<v SPEAKER_2>We'll be fascinated ourselves to find out our target.

00:46:26.920 --> 00:46:35.300

<v SPEAKER_2>The greatest challenge, Colin, has been that, given the fact we're describing where does Canada find itself, this changes daily.

00:46:35.300 --> 00:46:40.880

<v SPEAKER_2>We're into the second week in January, and the world has been changed dramatically.

00:46:42.220 --> 00:46:54.140

<v SPEAKER_2>You need to respond to the changes that are taking place, but you also want something that isn't simply a recitation of current events, that instead looks at some of the principles and issues that are more transcendent than that.

00:46:54.140 --> 00:46:54.920

<v SPEAKER_1>Thank you, Perrin.

00:46:54.920 --> 00:46:56.040

<v SPEAKER_1>Thank you, John.

00:46:56.040 --> 00:46:59.660

<v SPEAKER_1>We were joined today by the Honourable Perrin Beatty and the Honourable John Manley.

00:46:59.660 --> 00:47:04.440

<v SPEAKER_1>You can find The Canadian Global Affairs Network on iTunes, Spotify and Google Play.

00:47:04.440 --> 00:47:06.360

<v SPEAKER_1>If you like the show, give us a rating.

00:47:06.360 --> 00:47:09.780

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00:47:10.560 --> 00:47:14.020

<v SPEAKER_1>The Global Exchange is brought to you by our team at The CGAI.

00:47:14.020 --> 00:47:18.760

<v SPEAKER_1>Thanks go out to our producer, Jordyn Carroll and to Drew Phillips for providing our music.

00:47:18.760 --> 00:47:20.280

<v SPEAKER_1>I'm Colin Robertson.

00:47:20.280 --> 00:47:22.120

<v SPEAKER_1>Thanks for joining us today on The Global Exchange.