

Strong, Secure, Engaged

An Assessment and Look-Ahead

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Topics

- Benchmark Comparison of SSE
- Gaps to Fill in Future Policy Reviews
- CME Opportunities



Benchmark Comparison of SSE

Benchmark Nations

- France: 2013 White Paper on Defence and National Security (reviewed in 2017)
- United Kingdom: 2015 National Security Strategy and Strategic Defence and Security Review
- Australia: 2016 Defence White Paper
- US: 2016 Quadrennial Defense Review



Common Approaches

All four remarkably similar in how they progressively built the policy rationale and narrative in five sequential steps:

1. Defining a view of the nation's place in the world and, in broad terms, how the instruments of state power, including defence capabilities, would be used to support a national strategy
2. Analysis of the global and regional strategic outlook and the military options current and future governments would need to have in order to face them
3. Defining the defence strategy each nation intended to follow;
4. Defining the defence capabilities each nation would acquire, maintain or divest to implement the strategy; and
5. Defining the financial means by which the required capabilities would be acquired and sustained.



SSE Strengths

- Does a reasonable job defining Canada's place in the world and reflects a generally sound understanding of the challenges the country faces
- Good articulation of a forward-thinking defence strategy
- Foundational concepts of Anticipate, Adapt, and Act provide a good intellectual base upon which to conceptualize, design and build effective defence capabilities – and employ them in operations
- Well supported by very credible and complete cost estimates for the investment plans – and allocated funding
- Very importantly, it quantitatively defines mission tasks



SSE Weaknesses (1)

- The absence of a more comprehensive analysis encompassing national security and foreign policy
- Acknowledges the need for Whole-of-Government approaches, but does not discuss how the GoC intends to operationalize the concept
- Provides for modernization of the submarine fleet but it will be 40 years old by 2030. Planning for replacement should have been, but is not, addressed in SSE
- No provision for regular cyclical policy review
- Too much of the defence budget will continue going towards personnel costs vs other elements of capability



SSE Weaknesses (2)

Country	Regular Force	Defence Budget	Percentage of GDP	Spending per Regular Force Member in \$CA
France	215,000	€46.9B	1.9	\$322,200
UK	149,000	£45.1B	2.0	\$576,380
Australia	58,000	\$AS 32.0B	1.8	\$522,000
United States	1,430,000	\$US 597.5B	3.3	\$552,100
Canada (2015)	68,000	\$CA 20.0B	0.9	\$294,120
Canada (2026)	71,500	\$CA 32.7B	1.4	\$457,343

Overall Assessment of SSE

- Structure is very different from the four benchmark nations' policies, but largely covers the same ground
- The lack of a broader national security and foreign policy context is its principal weakness, but is not fatal. Minister Freeland's 6 June 2017 speech compensated somewhat
- SSE is stronger than most of its predecessors, and a much more effective policy tool for directing implementing action across government
- Still a way to go for Canadian governments to reach the level of maturity and purpose reflected in the benchmark nations' policies, but is a step in the right direction



Gaps to Fill in Future Reviews

National Security ↔ Economy (1)

- A nation's ability to maintain adequate defence and security capabilities is determined not only by the political will to commit resources, but also the economic capacity to afford the ongoing investments required
 - For Canada to be able to afford the defence and security capabilities it needs, it must have a strong economy.
 - In order to have a strong economy, it must, among other things, maintain adequate domestic security and, with partners, contribute effectively to continental and global security, order and stability.

The power of any government depends ultimately upon its finances.

Winston Churchill



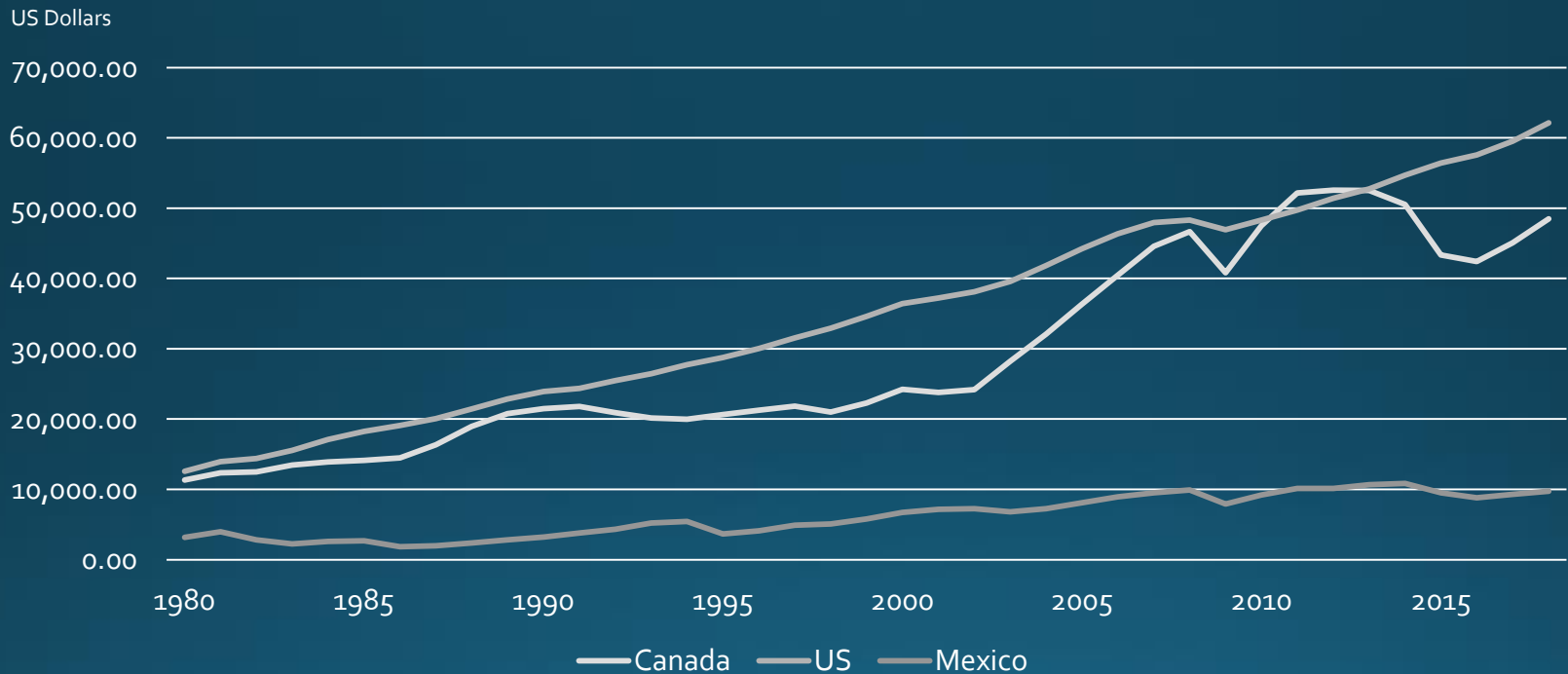
National Security ↔ Economy (2)

- Sovereignty and Security Implications
 - The U.S. will quite legitimately do what it must to defend itself and its maritime and air approaches, which by and large are also Canada's maritime and air approaches
 - Any serious erosion of Canada's relative economic capacity compared to the U.S. will progressively undermine its ability to shoulder its share of the continental (and global) security burden. Any gaps will be filled by our U.S. partners



National Security ↔ Economy (3)

North American Nations GDP Per Capita 1980-2018



Data source: International Monetary Fund



Complexity

- Complexity of regional security problems have been generally poorly understood by intervening players
 - Historical underpinnings
 - Sometimes powerful impact of geography
 - Demographic and economic realities and trends
 - Sociological, cultural and other realities within populations
 - Political motivations
 - And many more
- Effective solutions require sustained and consistent effort integrating many tools: development, diplomacy, defence, internal security, institution-building, economy-building, etc.
- Science has more to tell us about regional attitudes and problems than we have traditionally understood

Canada needs to substantially up its game



CME Opportunities

Opportunities to Consider

- Leverage expertise in understanding ground and topography to develop expertise in strategic analysis of the impact of geography on regional security problems and their potential solutions
- Leverage expertise in civil engineering to help bridge the cultural divide between the CAF and development and relief NGOs and agencies
- More broadly, develop an institutional capacity to provide effective leadership, with others, in the CAF's continuing evolution towards being a linchpin in Canada's evolving Whole-of-Government global security approach



Thank You

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