



POLICY *Brief*



JOHNSON  
SHOYAMA

# Foreign Policy in a Time Of Turbulence

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## CONTEXT

- Canada was a key player in the formation of the United Nations
- Web of institutions reflects our values and commitment to democracy
- An interconnected world is in a period of uncertainty and turbulence
- There is no divide between domestic policies and what's happening abroad
- We're tied by our geography, history, trade and economic relationships
- In such a world the defence of Canada is no easy task
- It requires a stronger commitment to our military obligations
- We cannot be a free-rider under the umbrella of the U.S.

## CONSIDERATIONS

- Nationalism, imperialism, exceptionalism, isolation remain alive today
- Destabilizing forces have re-emerged on the global agenda
  - Russia's invasion of Ukraine
  - Middle East is in crisis and at war
  - Conflict in Sudan
  - Myanmar
  - South China Sea
  - Rise of authoritarianism and challenges to democracy
- UN Charter: collective peace, security, development, rule of law
- Isolationism has its consequences
- Canada must commit resources to the global challenge

## QUESTIONS

- How would you describe the world today?
- What are the causes that have created the situation?
- How would you describe the challenges on the global agenda?
- What are mechanisms to manage conflict, tensions, competing interests?
- How can the UN and other institutions be strengthened?
- What role can Canada play in the international agenda?