

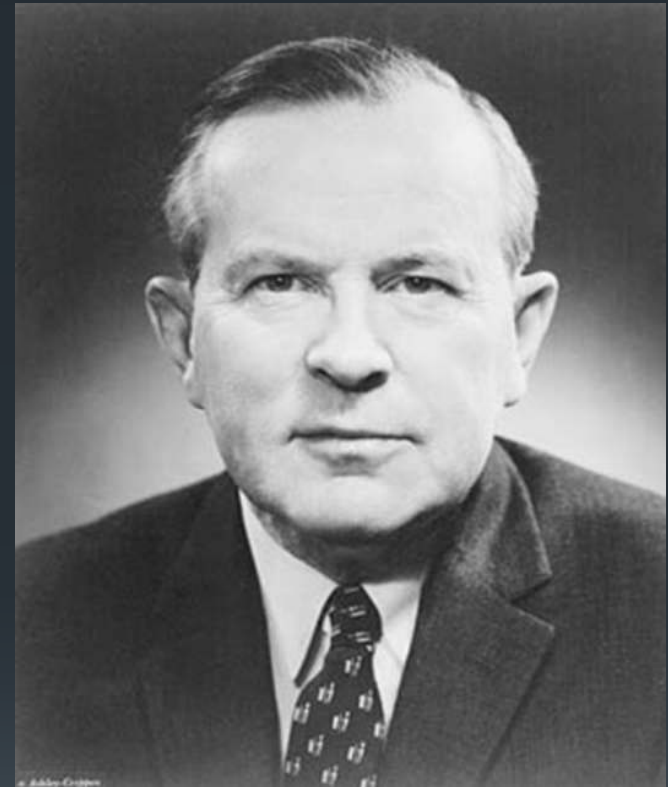
Change and Continuity in Canada's Middle Power Model: Lessons for Korea

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**Memorandum, for presentation to the conference
on “Korea's expanding global role”, Seoul, May
8, 2012.**

The Canadian Middle Power Model

- Canadian diplomatic style traditionally one of “**Quiet Diplomacy**”, predicated on constructive dialogue/engagement and skill as an “insider”
- Emphasis on technical expertise and functionalism – “**Niche Diplomacy**”
- **Flexibility** and **Speed** as distinctive aspects of Canada’s middle power model



Prime Minister Lester B. Pearson

Motivations and Constraints on Canada's Middle Power Model



- Maintenance of the Post-1945 International Order
- Key emphasis on Domestic National Unity – with specific reference to UN peacekeeping
- Risks of Followership?
- Subordination of Justice to the role of System Stabilizer?
- Risks of Club/IO Overload?

Stretching the Model in the 1990s

- Finding issue-specific niches
 - anti-personnel land mines campaign
- Initiatives on ICC, child soldiers, conflict diamonds
- Extending state and societal like-mindedness
- Coalitions of the Willing with and without the US
- Criticism of this model – playing below its weight/normative values over national interest



Moving the Model back to a Main Game

- Concentrated attention on North American border/perimeter issues
- An accentuated form of Niche Diplomacy – Canada's role in Afghanistan
- Technical but not entrepreneurial leadership in the G20
- Supporting the US in geographic domains – the Americas
- Risks of discarding “good international citizenship” – climate change, ODA
- The Risks of geographic disengagement – Africa



Signing of the joint *Declaration on a Shared Vision for Perimeter Security and Economic Competitiveness*, February 4, 2011

Lessons from Canada's middle power model/experience for Korea



- The Middle Power Model takes on greater meaning when it coincides with a general pattern of diplomacy – not just a subjective “self-image”
- It is unlikely that this model can be completely distanced from a normative orientation but this should not be brought out with a sense of moral superiority but a sense of good international citizenship.
- The model will constantly evolve, especially with the choice of functional specialization or niches.
- Successful agency in overcoming structural constraints will depend on skill and the capacity to focus material resources on a specific issue of expanding global influence. Coalition building through technical, entrepreneurial and intellectual creativity is vital.
- Although the model has the capacity to build consensus at the domestic level, there is the potential for a critical backlash on grounds that this approach does not reflect adequately national interests or values.