



**INTERNATIONAL POLITICS
AND MULTILATERAL
RELATIONS**

**High Profile Envoy as
Ukraine-NATO Special
Partnership Talks Begin**

Oct.-Nov. 1996... The Ukrainian government appointed Col. Gen. Kostyantyn Morozov as the country's representative to NATO and principal coordinator for Ukraine-NATO cooperation on military issues". Morozov served from 1991 to 1993 as the first Defence Minister of independent Ukraine and played a key role in the creation of the Ukrainian armed forces.

The establishment of this Ukrainian representation in Brussels marks a milestone in Ukraine's quest for a special relationship with NATO. It entails political consultations and military cooperation short of membership and also reflects NATO's and the European Union's stated awareness of Ukraine's central role in the post-Cold War geopolitics of Europe. Kyiv also regards its nascent special partnership with NATO and Western European Union as a key element in European security and one that does not affect Ukraine's neutral status.

Ukraine's Defence Minister Oleksander Kuzmuk and government leaders conferred with NATO Deputy Secretary-General Sergio Balanzinon, Gen. Klaus Naumann, Chairman of NATO's Military Committee, and other senior NATO officials. The talks focused on developing a NATO-Ukraine "special partnership", which was described as parallelling, but not rivalling, NATO's evolving relations with Russia.

Canada participated in the talks as NATO's Contact Point Mission to Ukraine. Under discussion was the proposed opening of a permanent NATO Information Office in Kyiv in 1997.

**Ukraine-WEU Agreement
on Security Cooperation**

Sept.-Oct. 1996... During a visit to Kyiv, the Secretary-General of the Western European Union, Jose Cutileiro, conferred with Ukrainian President Leonid Kuchma, Foreign Minister Hennadiy Udovenko, and other officials on establishing cooperation between the WEU and Ukraine. In what was described as the first-ever joint communiqué signed by the WEU with a

post-Soviet country, the sides noted that Ukraine is an important cooperation partner in building security in Europe and they agreed to establish contacts and joint programs. Ukrainian officials submitted a specific cooperation plan envisaging, their country's participation in WEU peacekeeping operations and attendance at WEU military exercises; WEU use of Ukrainian air transport assets; Ukraine's inclusion in the WEU's space research and satellite-launch programs; the establishment of a military liaison between Ukraine's Brussels embassy and the WEU; and the granting, after a transitional period, of WEU "associate partner" status to Ukraine (the same as that currently planned for the six countries of the former Warsaw Pact and the three Baltic states). Cutileiro indicated that Ukraine can obtain this status after becoming an associate

organizations' simultaneous enlargement. Kyiv defines its own cooperation with them, short of membership, as part of a future European security system and not affecting Ukraine's chosen neutral status.

**Top-Level Ukraine-U.S.
Commission Created**

Sept.-Nov. 1996... U.S. Vice-President Al Gore and Ukrainian President Leonid Kuchma created a U.S.-Ukrainian Bi-national Commission which they will Co-chair. The Commission consists of four committees dealing with foreign policy, security, trade and investment, and "sustainable economic cooperation, respectively." The U.S.



JEAN-MARC CARISSE, OFFICE OF THE PRIME MINISTER

In Lisbon at the summit of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) on Dec. 2, 1996, Canada's Prime Minister Jean Chrétien met with Ukrainian President Leonid Kuchma. Chrétien promised Kuchma his support in NATO's expansion into Eastern Europe, assuring him that Canada would lobby its allies to ensure Ukraine received the same status in any treaties as between NATO and Russia.

member of the European Union through the member countries' ratification of the EU-Ukraine partnership and cooperation agreement.

President Kuchma's goal of WEU associate membership parallels its quest for a special partnership with NATO, and was reaffirmed by Ukraine's leaders in talks with the North Atlantic Assembly's Chairman Karsten Voigt. Kyiv regards NATO's and the WEU's future roles in Eastern Europe's security as complementary with one another, and favours the two

Newsbriefs are compiled by Monitor staff with materials from newspapers and news services, including: Ukrainian News, Ukrainian Weekly, Ukrainian Voice, Homin Ukrainy, Ukraine and the World, Eastern Economist, Kiev Post, Ukrinform, UCIS, INFOBANK, OMRI, Reuters, United Press International, ITAR-TASS, Update on Ukraine (Council of Advisors to the Presidium of the Parliament of Ukraine), and various INTERNET sources.