

Introduction

Canadians share a strong commitment to international peace and security. This is a cornerstone of Canada's foreign policy and a focal point for co-operation with other countries. One example of this commitment was the Canadian role in the international convention banning anti-personnel landmines.

For many years, Canada has complemented its efforts at arms control and peacebuilding with tight controls on the export of military goods from Canada. The federal government has clear policies on these exports. It exercises the highest standards of responsibility in reviewing proposed exports, and uses thorough procedures that reflect the interests and values of Canadians.

Canada cannot realistically act alone on the control of military goods exports. Therefore, its controls are part of a much larger and constantly evolving international effort. Canada works with other countries to balance the many legitimate interests that come into play with military goods exports.

This brochure explains Canada's export policies relating to military goods and technology, as well as how these policies are implemented. It describes the trade in military goods and the international agreements that help to control these exports. In particular, this brochure describes the extensive screening process that Canada uses to ensure the wisest possible export decisions.

Readers can find sources for more detailed information on Canada's arms control, non-proliferation and export control policies and processes at the end of this brochure. For specific information on how to apply for an export permit, and which goods are on the Export Control List, please see our publication *A Guide to Canada's Export Controls*. For information about Canada's actual military exports, please refer to *Export of Military Goods from Canada — Annual Report*, which we have published each year since 1990.