



# STATEMENTS AND SPEECHES

INFORMATION DIVISION  
DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS  
OTTAWA - CANADA

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## CANADA AND THE ENLARGEMENT OF THE EUROPEAN ECONOMIC COMMUNITY - I

A Statement tabled in the House of Commons by the Honourable Jean-Luc Pepin, Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce on December 1, 1970.

On behalf of the Government and accompanied by officials of the Departments of External Affairs, Finance, Agriculture, and Industry, Trade and Commerce, I visited Geneva, London and Brussels in October to put forward Canadian interests in the current negotiations for enlargement of the European Economic Community.

In Geneva, I had a *tour d'horizon* of current world trade issues with the Director-General of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT). In London, I met with Prime Minister Heath and three of his Cabinet colleagues. I had talks in Brussels with five of the eight members of the EEC Commission, the permanent representatives of the six member states, the British negotiating team, the Ambassadors of the other applicant countries (Ireland, Denmark and Norway) and the Ambassadors of the United States, Australia and New Zealand.

Those with whom I met welcomed our representations -- they clearly wanted to have a better understanding of Canada's point of view.

### Main Themes

In my conversations, I highlighted four main themes:

- (1) Our concerns about the negative effects of EEC enlargement on Canada's access to the markets of the United Kingdom and Western Europe and its repercussions on the framework and patterns of world trade.
- (2) Our conviction that in some instances mutuality of interests exists between Canada and Britain and the EEC, offering scope for adjustments.