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# news release

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## **CO-CHAIRS ANNOUNCED FOR NATIONAL FORUM ON CANADA'S INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS**

University of Toronto professor Janice Gross Stein and Montréal business executive Pierre S. Pettigrew will act as co-chairpersons of the first annual National Forum on Canada's International Relations to be held March 21-22, 1994, at the Government's Conference Centre in Ottawa.

The announcement was made today by Foreign Affairs Minister André Ouellet, Defence Minister David Collette, and International Trade Minister Roy MacLaren.

The purpose of the Forum, which was promised prior to the 1993 Election, is to provide an opportunity for Canadians to consider the implications of the rapidly changing international and domestic environments as they affect foreign affairs, and to offer views on the impact these changes should have on Canada's policy priorities. Some 120 people from a number of backgrounds and with involvement in business, labour, academic, non-governmental organizations, Aboriginal affairs and the media are expected to participate in this first Forum. They have been invited in a personal capacity on the basis of their knowledge and experience.

The National Forum, which will be held annually, is an important dimension of the foreign policy review process initiated by the Government. Other aspects of the ongoing review include public hearings by parliamentary committees, as well as a variety of other consultations with the Canadian public and groups interested in international relations.

Professor Gross Stein, who teaches international relations at the University of Toronto, and Mr. Pettigrew, who is Vice-President of Samson Bélair/Deloitte & Touche International, will preside over discussion of the full range of Canada's international roles and responsibilities.

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