

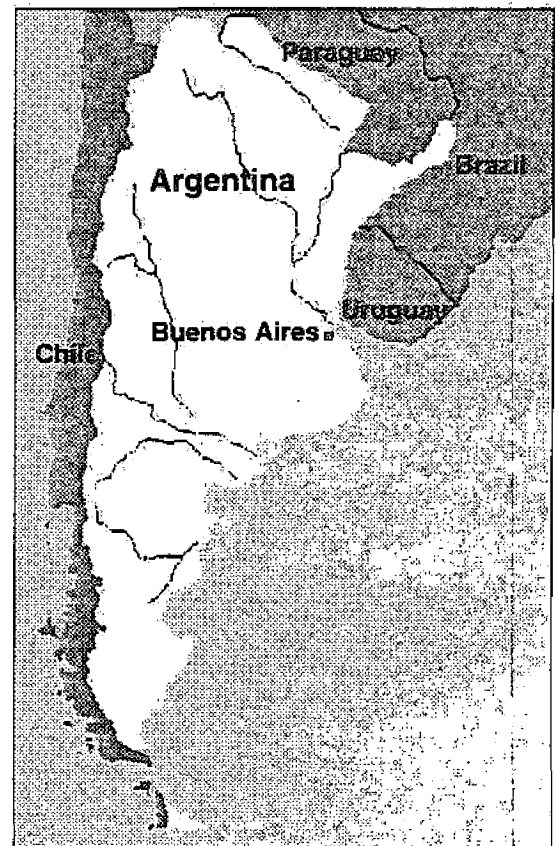


OVERVIEW OF CANADA-ARGENTINA RELATIONS

Canada and Argentina enjoy excellent bilateral relations, which have been enriched by Argentina's new attitude of co-operation with the industrialized world, as well as its domestic economic transformation. The visit of President Carlos Saúl Menem is the first Argentine presidential visit to Canada since 1961, and signals a renewed priority on the part of both countries.

The scope of Canada-Argentina bilateral relations has been steadily growing since 1990. A Foreign Investment Protection Agreement (FIPA) entered into force on April 29, 1993. Airline Services and Double-Taxation agreements have been signed. Commercial co-operation is expanding quickly. The Canadian public service is providing Argentina with expertise and training in statistics, financial management, information technology, and postal services.

Relations have been further reinforced by recent high-level contacts. The Argentine Minister of Economy, Dr. Domingo Cavallo, visited Toronto and Ottawa in January 1993, and the Minister for International Trade Roy MacLaren met in January with Dr. Cavallo during the Davos Symposium. Mr. MacLaren also met with the Argentine Foreign Minister, Dr. Guido Di Tella, while in Marrakesh, Morocco in April for the signing of the Uruguay Round of the General Agreement of Tariffs and Trade. In September 1993, both Deputy Minister for International Trade Allen Kilpatrick and Quebec Minister for International Affairs John Ciaccia visited Argentina. Canada and Argentina also hold regular policy consultations.



Canada's cultural activities and exchanges with Argentina over the past few years have been modest, but growing. While Canada does not have a bilateral cultural agreement with Argentina, a co-production treaty covering film and television was signed in 1988. To date, Canada and Argentina have co-produced two feature films and a television series. Private sector co-operation has also been expanding, notably in the publishing industry. Canada also supports a network of six Canadian studies centres, and a scholarship/academic exchange program.

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