

Senate resolutions were introduced calling for an investigation of the Canadian investigation. There were angry denunciations of the decision. This case gave Americans a taste of what it's like to be on the receiving end of a quasi-judicial trade process. They can be as exposed as anyone.

Having said that, let me move on to discuss trade in services. Services are an incredibly important part of our national economy. Roughly two-thirds of our GNP comes from the service sector. Moreover, Canada has had a healthy rate of growth in the services sector, averaging three percent annually. The problem we have in international trade is that we have no GATT rules on services.

The barriers we encounter in international services trade can be as minor as not being able to send a service technician into the United States to repair some Canadian machinery. Or as major as being unable to provide shipping services between American ports.

Canadian airlines would like to provide more services in the United States. Our truckers could benefit from access to the U.S. interstate market. Our travel industry, our life insurance companies, our engineers, our professional consultants may all benefit from new rules.

Our students are graduating in service-related specialties: computer science, engineering, biology, accounting, business administration, journalism and so on. This is why we are seeking to expand the job opportunities for these disciplines.

It makes eminent sense to attempt to address the barriers we encounter in international trade in services, when more and more of our national economy is affected by them. That is precisely what we are doing.