EC and Canada: Similar Yet Different

The peoples of Canada and the Community have common ethnic origins and similar cultural values and aspirations.

Both Canada and the EC have reached similar stages of industrial development, and both economies are based increasingly on advanced technology. However, major contrasts exist in the structure of their respective economies. For example, mining, agriculture and forest industries are important factors in the Canadian economy, whereas European production is mainly in the form of finished manufactured goods.

Both are highly dependent on external trade, which accounts for 20 per cent of Canada's gross domestic product and 25 per cent of the EC's, compared with 7 per cent for the USA. EC gross domestic product in 1978 was \$2,281.6 billion, and Canada's GDP was \$250.0 billion (est.).

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