

Canada — France Relations

Highlighting Canada-France relations since the last Summit, was the visit to Canada by then Prime Minister Jacques Chirac in August 1987 and the visit to France by Canadian Governor General Jeanne Sauvé in January 1988.

Trade between Canada and France reached \$2.5 billion in 1987. Canada's exports rose by 7 per cent, while French exports declined by 5 per cent. The strong performance of Canadian exports helped this country to reduce its trade deficit from \$500 to \$445 million.

Scientific exchange is also important and the two countries are focusing their efforts in the areas of space and biotechnology. Canada and France are also looking for ways to develop their cooperation in cold areas' technology, communications, advanced materials, environment and transport. The Summit of la Francophonie helped to expand cooperation in various domains, including culture and communication. France contributed to the inauguration of the new National Gallery in Ottawa with a substantial exposition of 175 works by Degas. Canadian TV viewers will soon benefit from the new international francophone network TV-5. The new network will feature production from France, Belgium, Switzerland and Canada.

FRANCE 1987 SUMMARY OF ECONOMIC INDICATORS

Growth of Real GDP/GNP	1.9%
Growth of Employment	-0.2%
Unemployment Rate	10.6%
Growth of Consumer Price Index	3.3%
Total Merchandise Trade (exports plus imports) as a percentage of Nominal GDP/GNP	32.8%
Central Government Fiscal Deficit (as a percentage of GDP/GNP)	2.5%
Current Account Balance (billions of U.S. dollars)	-4.4
Nominal Trade Balance (billions of U.S. dollars)	-8.1
Total GDP/GND per Capita (current U.S. dollars)	15,664
Total Trade per Capita (current U.S. dollars)	5,397