

WAIVER OF IMMUNITIES

Canada may request from the sending state the waiver of the immunities of diplomatic and consular personnel who have committed offences or are needed to give evidence in judicial or administrative proceedings. Although the sending state may not ordinarily agree to grant the waiver, particularly for criminal offences, law enforcement officers ought to document offences by diplomatic and consular personnel in case prosecution is eventually allowed, and ought to report them promptly to the federal, provincial, or territorial offices of protocol as appropriate.

CATEGORIES OF DIPLOMATIC AND CONSULAR PERSONNEL

The categories of diplomatic and consular personnel, defined according to the functions performed, are: officers, administrative and technical staff, and service staff. Moreover, the designations of diplomatic and consular personnel within the categories are:

Diplomatic Missions

Officers:

Ambassador, High Commissioner, or
Chargé d'Affaires
Minister
Counselor
First Secretary
Second Secretary
Third Secretary
Attaché

Administrative and Technical Staff:

Member of the Administrative and
Technical Staff

Service Staff:

Member of the Service Staff

Consular Posts

Officers:

Consul General or Honorary Consul
General
Consul or Honorary Consul
Vice-Consul or Honorary Vice-Consul
Consular Agent or Honorary Consular
Agent

Administrative and Technical Staff:

Member of the Administrative and
Technical Staff

Service Staff:

Member of the Service Staff

In diplomatic missions, officers treat mainly with federal officials, and in consular posts, officers treat mainly with provincial, territorial, and municipal officials. In both diplomatic missions and consular posts, administrative and technical staff perform administrative and technical work, and service staff perform service tasks. Honorary consular officers are either Canadian citizens or permanent residents of Canada.