

## Canadian imports from Western Europe by country

(in thousands of dollars)

	1982	1983	1984
United Kingdom	1 903 948	1 809 753	2 318 583
Gibraltar	2	-	1
Ireland	128 787	107 266	186 501
Malta	2 679	2 263	2 428
Austria	91 891	108 007	155 617
Belgium-Luxemburg	263 532	296 196	446 728
Denmark	129 023	136 925	200 807
Finland	96 424	75 763	148 163
France	876 957	840 957	1 219 488
West Germany	1 383 950	1 574 798	2 173 581
Greece	30 302	44 119	41 189
Iceland	4 931	3 234	2 973
Italy	724 848	798 497	1 116 125
Netherlands	267 295	349 756	545 421
Norway	92 684	313 562	134 203
Portugal	43 705	58 337	60 861
Spain	190 060	181 949	316 432
Sweden	365 764	415 759	581 521
Switzerland	429 558	407 973	378 298
Cyprus	445	353	11 355
Turkey	11 646	12 809	26 795
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>7 038 431</b>	<b>7 538 276</b>	<b>10 067 070</b>

Exporters to the region continued to face purchaser demands that Canadian suppliers make substantial purchases of East European goods in exchange for their own sales contracts. While this countertrade activity remains contrary to the spirit of the multilateral trade environment which GATT signatories are pledged to develop, Canadian firms have shown an increasing capability to incorporate countertrade conditions in their sales proposals. Canadian expertise was strengthened by a mission to Vienna and Leipzig to learn the most recent countertrade techniques and meet major practitioners.

The infrastructure of commercial relations between Canada and the countries of the region was substantially aided by a private sector initiative to form the Canadian-East European Trade Council, with the administrative support of the Canadian Chamber of Commerce. In its first year, the Council sponsored a series of seminars on the market mechanisms in Eastern Europe and developed framework agreements for co-operation with counterpart organizations in the region. Council representatives were also members of delegations visiting the region and received incoming visitors.

Academic, scientific, cultural and sports exchanges continued to play an important role in Canada's bilateral relations with Eastern European countries and the Soviet Union. Canadian artists toured Eastern Europe and the Soviet Union to perform and exhibit their works, and academics and scientists participated in exchanges (mostly private initiatives, although a modest number occurred under official auspices) with their counterparts in these countries. Sports teams regularly toured Eastern Europe and the Soviet Union and,

in turn, hosted visiting sports teams in Canada. The opening of the new chanceries in Belgrade and Budapest provided important opportunities for the display of Canadian art and for performances by Canadian musicians. Canada and the Soviet Union concluded an Arctic sciences program and a sports Memorandum of Understanding.

There were, however, certain actions and policies of Soviet and East European authorities that continued to undermine public confidence and support in Canada for putting relations with the region on a more stable footing. Human rights issues, the Soviet refusal to discuss compensation for the Canadian victims of the KAL disaster and the lack of significant progress on family reunification cases were among the principal impediments to stable relations.

Human rights and family reunification cases are of particular concern to the people and government of Canada. The Department takes every opportunity, both in bilateral consultations with and in the course of official visits to the USSR and Eastern Europe, to raise the issue of human rights and the reunion of families. In 1984-85, official representations were made on behalf of approximately 230 persons in the USSR and Eastern Europe seeking to join close relatives in Canada. In addition, the relaxed immigration criteria of the Polish Family Movement Program allowed some 1 370 persons from Poland to be united with relatives in Canada.

### Asia and the Pacific

#### Japan

Japan is Canada's second-largest trading partner, with bilateral trade totalling \$11.3 billion in 1984. The Secretary of State