

Canadian Foreign Policy

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RELATIONS BETWEEN CANADA AND MEXICO

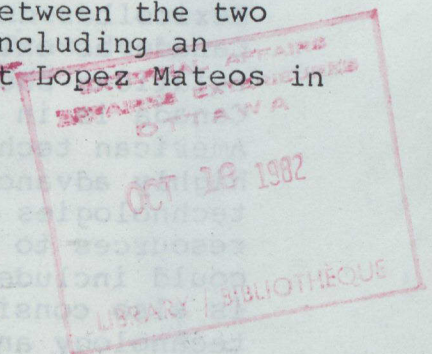
Canada has a wider spectrum of relations with Mexico than with any other Latin-American country. Mexico shares with Canada a heavy reliance on the United States, both as a market and a supplier and, since Confederation, each country has looked to the other at various times as a potential market to ease this dependence.

The discovery in recent years of vast reserves of petroleum in Mexico has considerably enhanced Mexico's international stature and has given greater impetus to the bilateral relationship with Canada. The Canada-Mexico Agreement on Industrial and Energy Co-operation, signed during President Lopez Portillo's visit to Canada in May 1980, provided for sales of Mexican petroleum to Canada and for Canada's participation in Mexico's industrial development.

In addition to these trade relations, over 200,000 Canadian tourists visited Mexico in 1980 and more than 30,000 Mexicans came to Canada.

Bilateral Relations

Canada and Mexico established diplomatic relations in 1944 and in 1947 a trade agreement came into force that provided for mutual most-favoured-nation (MFN) treatment. Exchanges between the two governments have taken many forms, including an official visit to Canada by President Lopez Mateos in



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