

# Italy

## Prime Minister Giulio Andreotti

Giulio Andreotti was born in January 1919 in Rome. He is a lawyer, writer and journalist and has been Prime Minister of Italy on five previous occasions.

Mr. Andreotti was one of the founders and editors of the Italian daily newspaper *Il Popolo*. He helped found the Christian Democratic Party and is a member of its executive. He was elected to the National Council of the Christian Democratic Party in 1946, and has been elected to the Chamber of Deputies for the constituency of Rome-Lazio in every election since 1948.

From 1948 to 1954, Mr. Andreotti served as Under-Secretary of State to the Prime Minister. He has been appointed minister of most major portfolios in the Italian government, including Foreign Affairs, Finance, Industry, Defence, the Interior, and the Treasury. In 1983 he was appointed Minister of Foreign Affairs by Prime Minister Craxi and he was returned to that position by Prime Minister De Mita in 1988. In July 1989, Mr. Andreotti was appointed President of the Council (Prime Minister).

Prime Minister Andreotti attended last year's Economic Summit in Paris in his capacity as Minister of Foreign Affairs. He will be accompanied by the Italian Foreign Minister Gianni De Michelis, and the Minister of the Treasury, Guido Carli. His personal representative is Umberto Vattani, Diplomatic Advisor to the Prime Minister.

## Canada-Italy Relations

Bilateral contacts with Italy have intensified in recent years in recognition of the growing importance of Italy as a major economic power. The Italian-Canadian community of about one million provides the anchor of Canada's vigorous relationship with Italy.

Two-way trade increased from \$2.9 billion in 1988 to \$3.1 billion in 1989. Canadian exports to Italy rose to \$1.1 billion, an increase of 9.4 percent over the previous year, and a significant 28 percent increase in the past two years. Italian exports to Canada rose by 3 percent last year to reach \$2 billion. The Canadian trade deficit with Italy declined marginally to just under \$1 billion.

On August 1, 1988, an economic and industrial co-operation agreement with Italy was signed to promote joint ventures between Canadian and Italian companies. Several important trade and industrial missions to Italy have taken place during the past year. In January 1989, Minister of International Trade John Crosbie led a business delegation to Italy. The Canadian Manufacturers Association also organized a conference in Rome in November 1989 to coincide with the visit of Premier David Peterson of Ontario, who was leading a business mission to various regions of Italy.