

Country-Specific Questions: Mexico and Torture

QUESTION

Why is Canada continuing to put trade ahead of human rights in a country like Mexico, where the UN just announced that torture is rampant?

SUGGESTED REPLY

- We are very concerned about torture anywhere in the world.
- The report has just been released and we will study it carefully.
- Trade and human rights are not mutually exclusive, and we are using our growing bilateral relationship with Mexico to move forward on all issue of interest and concern.
- The Canadian government recognizes human rights concerns in Mexico. We also recognize the real efforts Mexico is making towards reform. Canada is supportive of this process.
- I note that the UN Special Rapporteur on Torture visited Mexico following an earlier invitation by the Government of Mexico.