

worked toward limited but important goals: helping Canada's economy through the high-profile Team Canada trade missions; advancing the international campaign to ban landmines; and working for the creation of the International Criminal Court. More recently, Canadian diplomats have joined with aid workers, soldiers and police officers in an effort to rebuild war-torn Afghanistan.

The department today

Today, Foreign Affairs and International Trade Canada continues to play an important role in Canada and abroad. As of March 31, 2008, the department has 168 missions in 109 countries, including nine missions to multilateral organizations, and provides a platform abroad for the varied operations of the Government of Canada as a whole. As well, it maintains 13 regional offices across Canada.

The 9,700 women and men who work for the department include representatives of Canada's many ethno-cultural communities.

Perhaps more than ever before, the department pursues the key elements of its mandate: working for international peace and security; promoting trade and investment; advancing the rule of international law; and improving human rights.

Just as in the past, the department is continuing to adapt to new realities in Canada and the international environment. By undertaking a significant transformation exercise and by recruiting a new generation of diplomats, the department is renewing itself to meet the ongoing challenge of serving Canadians at home and abroad in a world of constant change.

For more information, visit us at www.international.gc.ca