



CANADA

## STATEMENTS AND SPEECHES

INFORMATION DIVISION

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

OTTAWA - CANADA

No. 73/3

CONFERENCE ON EUROPEAN SECURITY AND CO-OPERATION:

### CANADIAN EXPECTATIONS

A Statement by the Canadian Ambassador to Finland, Mr. E.A. Coté, at the Multilateral Talks Preparatory to the Conference on Security and Co-operation in Europe, Helsinki, December 1, 1972.

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With regard to the forthcoming conference,... these talks have already provided us with the opportunity of hearing some highly valid points of view. We shall give careful attention to other opinions expressed by our colleagues during the talks.

It is not by accident... that Canada is involved when the countries of Europe gather to seek solutions to problems that are often the lingering result of two world wars. Canada was very much involved in these two tragic conflicts; thousands of Canadians who died in Europe bear silent witness to this fact. Our traditions and cultures are for the most part European in origin. We have economic and historical ties with many different parts of Europe. There is scarcely a country represented here that is not the homeland of some Canadian citizen.

The ties between Europe and Canada are not only of historic interest, however; they are very vital, contemporary links, which will doubtless be developed still further in the future. Canada looks to Europe in economic and trade matters, for scientific and technical exchanges, and also in the exciting field of culture. Moreover, Canadian and European prosperity are of mutual advantage to us.

From the geographic point of view, communications are constantly reducing the distance between Canada and Europe -- either across the Atlantic, or over the Arctic Ocean. Canada's security will be increased as European security increases.

In view of the interests, ties and realities that bind us to Europe, we plan to co-operate to the fullest extent possible in the current talks.