
Mandate and Organization

The Canadian Institute for International Peace and Security was established by Parliament with the agreement of all parties in August 1984. The Institute's governing legislation states that:

"The purpose of the Institute is to increase knowledge and understanding of the issues relating to international peace and security from a Canadian perspective, with particular emphasis on arms control, disarmament, defence and conflict resolution, and to

- foster, fund and conduct research on matters relating to international peace and security;*

- promote scholarship in matters relating to international peace and security;*

- study and propose ideas and policies for the enhancement of international peace and security; and*

- collect and disseminate information on, and encourage public discussion of issues of international peace and security."*

The Institute is a Crown Corporation, but one with certain special provisions which help to ensure its vigorous independence. Members of its governing Board of Directors are appointed by the Government of Canada on the basis of nominations from a wide range of organizations across the country and in consultation with all recognized parties in the House of Commons. There are seventeen Directors, at least ten of whom must be

Canadian citizens. Levels of funding by Parliament are specified in the founding legislation. The Institute submits an Annual Report to the Parliament and the Canadian public through the Secretary of State for External Affairs.

The Institute's Chief Executive Officer is a member of the Board, and has the responsibility for the overall direction of the Institute. A staff of about forty work in the following divisions: research, public programmes, information services, awards and contributions, administration and the Peace and Security Competitions Fund.

The Institute does not itself advocate policy positions, but does seek to provide outlets, forums, and encouragement for the study and informed debate of policy ideas and options. While not part of the government decision-making process, the Institute may, under the provisions of the Act, conduct research or advisory activities for the Secretary of State for External Affairs and relevant Senate and House of Commons committees, if it is requested to do so.