

Canada–Spain Relations

- Canada and Spain participate in international forums such as the United Nations, the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development, NATO, the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe and the European Space Agency.
- An excellent relationship has been established between the Canadian and Spanish heads of government. They have met four times since 1996, most recently in September 2000 at the Millennium Summit in New York.
- Canada's Minister for International Trade visited Spain in May 2001 and in October 2000, when he led a delegation of Canadian business people.
- During a 1998 visit to Canada by the Spanish Minister of Foreign Affairs, Canada and Spain agreed to hold regular high-level consultations on bilateral issues and to exchange views on multilateral questions. Twice annual meetings have been held since that time.
- Canada and Spain have discovered a level of shared interest that has led to co-operation in a number of areas. These include jointly advocating support for a worldwide ban on landmines and for creating the International Criminal Court.
- Canada and Spain hold frequent consultations on UN affairs — including the potential reform of certain UN institutions like the Security Council. The two countries' delegations work closely together and have frequently supported each others candidates for positions on committees or senior posts within the UN system and other international organizations.
- In the recent Joint Declaration regarding the Overall Relationship and Fisheries Cooperation, Canada and Spain reaffirmed their conviction that fishing resources should be exploited in a sustainable and responsible manner. Canada and Spain have also acknowledged the importance of the general framework of common principles deriving from the 1982 UN Convention on the Law of the Sea and from the Agreement on Straddling and Highly Migratory Fish Stocks.

Trade and Investment

- With the exception of 1996, trade between Canada and Spain has been increasing steadily as a result of the strong economic growth in both countries in recent years. In 2000, bilateral trade totalled nearly \$1.6 billion, with the balance of trade in Spain's favour.