

ITALY

Capital: Rome

GEODATA

Area

301,000 km²

Population

57.6 million (1995)

Population growth rate

0.2% (1995)

Major language

Italian

Major religious group

Roman Catholic (99%)

POLITICAL DATA

Type of government

Republic

Democratic institutions

Bicameral parliament

Leaders

President Oscar Luigi Scalfaro

Prime Minister Romano Prodi

Minister of Foreign Affairs

Lamberto Dini

Minister of the Treasury

Carlo Azeglio Ciampi

UN Human Development Index (1997)

Italy ranks 21st among 175 countries

ECONOMIC DATA

Nominal GDP

\$1.15 trillion US (1997)

Real GDP growth rate

1.5% (1997)

Inflation rate

1.7% (1997)

Unemployment rate

12.3% (January 1998)



Main exports

Textiles, weaving apparel, metals, production machinery, transportation equipment and chemicals

Main imports

Grain, wood, petroleum, coal, chemicals, raw oils, meat, paper, rolled iron and steel, copper, mechanical and electrical equipment, and cotton

Main exports to Canada

\$3.05 billion (1997), including machinery, boilers and engines, electrical machinery and equipment, rolling stock and vehicles, raw hides and skins, optical and precision equipment

Main imports from Canada

\$1.48 billion (1997), including wood pulp and fibre, wood and wooden articles, copper sheets and articles, cereals and wheat

CANADIAN REPRESENTATIVE

Ambassador Jeremy Kinsman

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