



AUSTRIA AT A GLANCE

Austria-Canada Relations:

- Growing business links: two-way trade of \$1.27 billion (2003) with robust two-way investment (notably the automotive sector); Canada is one of Austria's most important non-European trade partners.
- Closer science and technology cooperation: especially in biotechnology, the environment and automotive technologies.
- People-to-people ties: the majority of Canadians of Austrian origin live in Canada's west; considerable potential for increasing youth and academic exchanges.
- Canada and Austria represent important mutual markets for our artists and cultural industries: particularly the avant-garde (dance, film, music, multimedia and performing arts).
- Like-minded multilateral interests: UN, OSCE, SHIRBRIG, OECD; our active cooperation in peacekeeping, conflict prevention, human rights, Human Security Network (Canada and Austria are founding members) and cultural diversity.
- "Best Practices": our growing dialogue and cooperation on federalism, border management, anti-terrorism, immigration & integration, environment, health care, public sector reform.

Canada, Austria and the European Union:

- **International Security & Effective Multilateralism:** Valued partner in promoting UN reform, Responsibility to Protect, human security; and our work on WMD, peacekeeping, crisis management/rapid reaction (SHIRBRIG).
- **Global Economic Prosperity:** Progress on the TIEA trade talks will help our competitive export-oriented economies and increase professional mobility. Mutual benefits of cooperating on: science & technology, innovation, IT, regulatory regimes and the WTO (Doha).
- **Justice and Home Affairs:** Partners on security, on addressing trafficking and organized crime, war crimes and migration issues (asylum and refugee issues). Austria looks to Canada for ideas on immigration/integration and cultural diversity.
- **Global and Regional Challenges:** Austria has a unique perspective and role in southern and eastern Europe, where the future of the Balkans is a concern. Austria's environmental stewardship brings scope for more bilateral cooperation, especially on: alternative energy technologies, increasing energy efficiency, Kyoto, forest management and sustainable development. Also partners on development assistance (NEPAD).
- **People-To-People:** Our youth are our future. Let's work together towards a more comprehensive framework for our university exchange agreements, and student and young worker exchange programs. Parliamentary ties can be strengthened, and our whole-of-government inter-action across counterpart ministries can be increased.

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