

Along with its efforts at strengthening its relations with the European Communities, Canada has sought to develop bilateral relations with the various member countries and with other European nations.

As a member country of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization, Canada contributes to the maintenance of peace and security in Europe. Canada believes that NATO is the best forum for concerted action and consultation with the 13 European member states, not only in military and political matters, but also in the ecological, socio-economic and scientific fields. Canada also takes part in the negotiations for reciprocal and balanced force reductions in Central Europe, which began between the NATO and the Warsaw Pact countries in Vienna in October 1973.

112 Canada participated in the negotiations, carried out over two years, which led to the adoption in August 1975 of the Final Act of the Conference on Security and Co-operation in Europe, signed in Helsinki by the leaders of the 35 participating states.