



Police in Chile seize seven tons of cocaine with a value of US \$430 million, the second largest drug seizure in the world. (2000)

*CP Picture Archive:
La Estrella*

Transnational Organized Crime

The expansion of transnational organized crime constitutes a negative side effect of the opening of borders and markets through globalization. Criminal syndicates have become more sophisticated and are increasingly diversifying into areas of crime that threaten the safety of people. These include trafficking in people, drugs, weapons and other commodities, as well as activities that may be indirectly threatening, such as financial and economic crime.

The fight against organized crime has emerged as a key priority for Canada in strengthening human security at home and abroad. Organized crime is a problem that does not respect national boundaries and exploits gaps in international co-ordination. For this reason, co-operative approaches are fundamental. Canada is pursuing initiatives with partners in the G-8, through the Lyon Group, on challenges such as human trafficking, law enforcement co-operation, firearms, corruption, judicial co-operation and high-tech crime. Priority is also being placed on the negotiation of the UN Convention on Transnational Organized Crime and Its Protocols, to be completed by autumn 2000.