European countries, is a member of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization. In 1976 Canada and the European Communities concluded a Framework Agreement for Economic and Commercial Co-operation. And trade with Japan has increased greatly during the past two decades. More recently, much attention has been devoted to strengthening Canada's political and economic links with the countries of Latin America and Southeast Asia.

## The United Nations

s a founding member of the United Nations, Canada has always placed great importance on the world organization, which continues to serve as a useful instrument for settling many international problems of concern to Canada.

During the past few years, the UN has grown more interested in economic matters. Developing countries have called for the introduction of a new international economic order. Canada recognizes the need to reduce the disparities between rich and poor countries and has worked resolutely in various multilateral fora towards that end.

