

**Science and Technology in the  
European Union**

**By  
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## **1. European Union: S&T Opportunities for Canada**

Informal research collaboration between Canadians and Europeans thrives in all sectors and at all levels. When the Canada-EU Agreement on Cooperation in Science and Technology was signed in 1996, the intent was to encourage and facilitate even greater cooperation, especially in multi-national projects. It appears likely that a Canada-EU Joint Declaration on S&T will be signed at the Canada-EU Summit in Toledo, Spain, on May 8, 2002. This is expected to further facilitate strategic cooperation in key research areas of mutual interest.

Canadian involvement in FP5 has exceeded 70 projects, with final calls for proposals just coming to a close. Many projects involve more than one Canadian researcher. Consortia involving Canadians have had a proposal success rate of approximately 25%, in keeping with overall statistics for the program. There is scope for even greater formal engagement.

Canadian researchers can participate in European R&D consortia under the pending Sixth Framework Program (<http://www.cordis.lu>) and under the COST and EUREKA initiatives. A brochure "Partner with Canadian Researchers in the European Union's Sixth Framework Program" has been prepared to raise awareness among Europeans of the opportunities for including Canadians in research consortia. Special Canada-EU cooperation will be ongoing under the Health Telematics and ISTEC initiatives (see Section of the European Commission's DG-Information Society). Canada also expects to participate in the GMES initiative (see section on 2002 Policy and Program developments).

Canadian participation in FP6 must be funded from Canadian sources. Consult "Canadian Financial Support for International R&D Collaboration" for an overview of the various sources of such funding, and the type of collaborations which are eligible under the various programs (<http://www.infoexport.gc.ca/science/fndgeneral-e.html>).

Europeans are eligible to participate in Canadian R&D programs as long as they too are self-funded (e.g. supported from European funding sources). Some Canadian assistance is available for young international scientists interested in spending a period of time in Canada, training in their chosen research field. The document "Scholarships and Fellowships for International Research Training" at <http://www.infoexport.gc.ca/science/fellows-e.html> provides useful information.

Every year, specific Canada-EU S&T events occur, some of which are recurring, others one-time-only occurrences. A few of the events for 2002 are:

- The final two of four Canada-EU S&T Seminars in Canada are taking place in 2002, in Vancouver (March) and Halifax (June). These seminars are an initiative of the European Commission, with support from several federal departments, other levels of government, and other research entities. For information, please contact Mr. Peter Eggleton, at [pegglet@attglobal.net](mailto:pegglet@attglobal.net)