

Preface

Responsibilities

The Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade:

- Manages Canada's political, economic, trade and cultural relations with over 100 other countries.
- Manages Canada's diplomatic missions and delegations around the world
- Provides a wide range of services to Canadians who are travelling or living abroad: passports, advice, information, and assistance in the event of natural disasters or other emergencies.
- Helps Canadian businesses to promote and sell their goods and services in foreign markets.
- Encourages the flow of investment and new technology into Canada.
- Negotiates trade and investment agreements, and resolves disputes on behalf of Canadian stakeholders.
- Promotes international human rights, peace and security through our relations with individual countries as well as through our membership in international organizations.
- Works with representatives of other countries to develop international laws and regulations.
- Ensures that Canadian policies are consistent with our international obligations.
- Promotes Canadian cultural industries and educational institutions abroad.
- Organizes official visits to Canada by heads of state, heads of government and ministers, and visits by the Governor General, Prime Minister and other ministers abroad.
- Enhances Canadians' understanding of international trade and foreign policy issues through public information programs, media relations activities, consultations, our Internet web site and other outreach activities.