

Links with Western Europe and Japan

In 1978, Canada pursued further its efforts to give substance to economic relations with the European Communities and the key countries of Western Europe. In particular Canada worked to give economic stimulus to bilateral relations with the Federal Republic of Germany and France. The Prime Minister's visits to several European countries reflected Canada's commitment to strengthen its relations with Europe and demonstrated our determination to achieve a level of economic exchanges commensurate with the importance of the Canadian and European economies and with the quality of our political dialogue. Canada continued to expand and diversify its economic and political relations with Japan, and agreements on upgraded nuclear safeguards and fisheries were concluded.

The above efforts in the realm of foreign affairs underline two main dimensions of Canadian foreign policy. First, Canada continued to seek to advance Canadian interests and respond to Canadian concerns by pursuing a range of significant bilateral relations and keeping them in good repair. Second, a congenial global order ranked high on the agenda of our national goals in a world where it was self evident that the well-being of Canadians depended increasingly on maintaining that order through international co-operation.