

II. Towards a Full-fledged France-Canada Partnership

A. Foreign Policy

France and Canada are partners in a number of international fora that offer many opportunities for co-operation. Peacekeeping is one area where the two countries often act in common. During the Haitian crisis, for example, Canada and France worked closely together within the United Nations. Shortly after the outbreak of the Yugoslav crisis, the two countries took part in initial peacekeeping efforts, first under the UN flag and then under the aegis of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO). Bilateral consultations on Africa take place annually. Consultations are also held on disarmament, security, development co-operation and UN reform. In addition, foreign policy issues are the subject of a continuing dialogue through the institutions of la Francophonie.

B. Economic Co-operation

1. Multilateral

Canada and France co-operate in international relations together and with others in the G-7, the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) and the World Trade Organization (WTO). Their ministers meet regularly to discuss various complex issues, including further liberalization of international trade in sectors such as telecommunications, finance and professional services; trade; labour; the environment; a proposed international investment guarantee agreement; and competition policy. Canada and France also agree on the need to exempt cultural industries from the usual international trade rules. As major players in global exchanges, both Canada and France have an interest in making the world economy more open and transparent.

Figure 3. Direct investment

