

- remained outside the Eastern alliance system, and accordingly were subject to rather different Western policy treatment.
- 2 Commercial relations with Czechoslovakia and Poland were governed by still valid prewar conventions and their membership in the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT). Bilateral trade agreements were concluded with Bulgaria in 1969, Romania in 1971, Hungary in 1972 and the German Democratic Republic in 1983. In 1986, a Long-Term Agreement for the Development of Trade, Economic and Industrial Cooperation was signed with Czechoslovakia.
 - 3 These included a Soviet-Canadian Protocol on Consultations, an Agreement on Cooperation in the Industrial Application of Science and Technology, and a General Exchanges Agreement, all signed in 1971, and followed later by a Financial Protocol (1975) and a Long-Term Agreement on Economic, Industrial, and Scientific Technical Cooperation (1976).
 - 4 Maureen Molot and Fen Hampson (eds.), *Canada Among Nations 1989*, Carleton University Press, Ottawa, 1990, p. 7.
 - 5 As a founding member of NATO, Canada has long participated in the consultative procedures of COCOM which oversees the Western strategic embargo against the East bloc. COCOM provides an informal forum for discussion and agreement on a mutually acceptable list of trade items subject to restriction on strategic grounds. While not binding, this has been regarded as a minimum list, with member countries free to impose additional controls. Under COCOM procedures, proposed exemptions from the agreed list must undergo a special waiver process. All NATO countries except Iceland are members of COCOM. Two non-NATO countries, Japan and Australia, are also members.
 - 6 In official literature, External Affairs and International Trade Canada defines as "strategic" any "civilian industrial goods, equipment and technology which can be used to increase the military capacity of a nation." The control list also includes goods which are controlled for "national economic and foreign policy purposes."
 - 7 With respect to the proliferation of ballistic missiles and relevant technology, seven Western industrialized nations, including Canada, took action in 1987 with the creation of the Missile Technology Control Regime.
 - 8 Much of the growth of Eastern imports from the West in the 1970s was financed through Western official and commercial bank credits. As a result, by the end of the 1980s, the seven European COMECON countries had accumulated a debt to the West that exceeded \$100 billion.

FURTHER READING

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The views expressed in this paper are the sole responsibility of the author and should not be taken to represent the views of the Institute and its Board.

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