- UNA: authorizes the government to issue necessary orders-in-council and regulations to implement measures recommended or ordered by the United Nations Security Council to give effect to a Security Council decision.⁴
- EIPA: authorizes the government to issue an Export Control List, an Import Control List and an Area Control List; to issue to any resident of Canada a permit to export controlled goods or to import controlled goods; and to ban trade in such goods without a permit. This Act relates primarily to trade and does not concern services or the seizure or freezing of assets. It will most probably be used in the future primarily for purposes of trade policy (e.g. quotas on textiles) and also to exercise quiet control over the sale of military equipment to other countries, whether or not they are subject to sanctions.
- Immigration Act: authorizes the government to withdraw the visa requirement exemption from the nationals of another country.
- Customs Tariff:⁷ authorizes the Minister of Finance to recommend to the Governor in Council that the General Preferential Tariff be extended to or withdrawn from a developing country's goods.

Since 1979, Canada has implemented measures against the following countries: Afghanistan, Argentina, China, Cuba, El Salvador, Fiji, Guatemala, Haiti, Indonesia, Iran, Iraq, Kenya, Kuwait, Libya, Myanmar, Poland, South Africa, Soviet Union, Sri Lanka, Yugoslavia and Zaire.

⁴ It should be noted that Article 41 of the UN Charter is "open" with respect to the measures which the Security Council may recommend or order, and these measures may be binding upon member countries.

⁵ In practice, aside from cases related to trade policy, the EIPA has been used primarily against four major categories of countries: countries targeted by the Coordinating Committee for Multilateral Strategic Export Controls (COCOM); countries at war or close to war; countries with poor human rights records; and countries considered unstable. Each case is judged individually. The response to a permit application will depend on the situation and on the military application or dangerous nature of the goods and equipment which would be exported. An export permit may be refused in some cases, even when there is no official policy concerning a country or situation. A refusal of this type does not necessarily constitute sanctions for the purposes of this discussion, insofar as it sends no signal and is very discreet.

⁶ EIPA does not cover technology unless it is in a "physical" form, such as a book or diskette.

⁷ This Act has rarely been used for the purpose of sanctions. The only example is the recent case of Yugoslavia, which was removed from the list of countries to which the General Preferential Tariff (GPT) is extended following UN Security Council decisions.