



The Department

5 Serving Canadians Abroad

Foreign Relations

- The Department conducts international, regional and bilateral policy negotiations dealing with a wide range of security issues on behalf of Canadians. These discussions may deal with military, trade or personal security matters, such as anti-personnel mines or the release of hostages; they may relate to a proposal to share expertise in some area of mutual benefit or to the development of international law; or they may be aimed at controlling transnational criminal activities or improving the quality of the environment.
- We look after other aspects of our national security, including the control of dangerous goods such as firearms or chemicals across our borders. International drug seizure programs are another example of the work we co-ordinate with other federal departments and agencies. Work like this helps to ensure what we Canadians take for granted: our personal security.

Trade Services

- On the trade side, we help Canadians do business in foreign markets. We help sell Canadian goods and services to the world. We negotiate trade and investment agreements that will benefit Canada. We resolve international disputes where Canadian stakeholders are involved. We encourage other countries to invest in Canada. We participate with other countries in measures to promote a stable global economy.
- We co-ordinate Canada's economic relations and foster the expansion of Canada's international trade. Team Canada — our national trade mission — is a highly successful example of our work abroad. Many Canadian companies are now exporting goods and services thanks to agreements negotiated by Team Canada. That adds up to greater prosperity for Canadians as well as access to Canadian goods for other countries.