

For instance, nuclear energy is one particular field which provides much potential for increased cooperation. Italy is greatly interested in the possibility of working together with Canada in the construction of CANDU nuclear reactors as part of Italy's domestic nuclear energy programme and perhaps in co-operating further in the international market in this field. Italy is also interested in acquiring Canadian uranium. Such cooperation has to be based on safeguards which meet Canada's international obligations and its national policy. The Italian Government's intention soon to adhere to the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty is a most encouraging indication that such arrangements are in fact desired by both sides.

Cultural affairs form an important element in our bilateral relations. In 1969, Canada established in Rome a Canadian Cultural Institute which assists Canadian artists and scholars in pursuing their studies in Italy. In 1973 our National Arts Centre Orchestra made a highly successful tour of Italy. In September 1974, Canada was the featured country at the famous Sorrento Film Festival, thus enabling the Italian public to become more aware of Canadian accomplishments in the field of cinema. In the same year, a film co-production agreement was ratified by our two governments.

As Prime Minister Trudeau indicated at the State banquet tendered him by President Leone, Canada is deeply conscious of Italy as a well-spring of those cultural values which inform Western civilization. Both Prime Ministers agreed during Mr. Trudeau's visit that Italian-Canadian cultural relations should be broadened and intensified and steps are already being taken to this end.

Immigration is another aspect of our bilateral relations which is of continuing interest. It is a link of long-standing between Canada and Italy. It has a substantial and pervasive effect in shaping Canadian society. It touches so many people in a direct, personal way. In the past three years approximately 5,000 Italian citizens have annually chosen Canada as their new home.