

- o The unification of Europe in 1992 was seen by all as a trade alliance competitive to North America (Canada and the U.S.).
- o The Montreal (B) participants did, however, see market areas in Europe for Bombardier and Lavalin; they saw some opportunities for trade between Quebec and Europe but saw a lack of Canadian infrastructure and planning toward specialization; like the more positive groups, felt Canadians would have to lower their living standards in order to be able to compete.
- o In Montreal (A) there was concern over lack of Canadian economic leadership and fear that Canada would be caught in the middle between the U.S. and Europe. Both Montreal groups also saw the Quebec/Canada relationship as a greater priority than trade.
- o B groups saw Europe as an economic threat stronger than the current U.S. and feared European self-sufficiency would lead to reduced European/Canada trade and a European preference to trade with the U.S. due to its higher dollar value.
- o Free Trade was seen by the positive groups as necessary, implying short term hardships (lay-offs) but necessary for long term gains. The lack of skilled labour force, low emphasis on training and higher cost of labour were seen as problematic for Canada in terms of competitiveness and economic benefits. In Toronto (A), losing skilled labour to the U.S. markets was identified as Canada's inability to specialize away from natural resources into new trading sectors and thus create the jobs.