

France

There were no obstacles identified to Canadian participation in publicly supported French consortia other than the Community's competition laws. In fact, there are a number of examples of Canadian partnerships with French firms for the purpose of participating in the EUREKA program (see Appendix A).

Britain

Not only does the U.K. government not restrict access to its RTD consortia, but it actively supports the participation of foreign firms in European projects. For example, the U.K. has strongly supported the right of ICL (owned 80% by Fujitsu and 20% by Northern) to participate in European computer R&D projects; particularly the European Computer Research Centre (other members are Bull and Siemens). Canadian firms are not restricted from joining LINK projects. For example, Northern Telecom has participated in some LINK projects.

Germany

Germany does not, to our knowledge, have any legislation restricting Canadian companies from participating in RTD consortia. It is not considered likely that Germany will move to impose restrictions on Canada in this context.