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Our expertise in the communications field is among the best in the world. At the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe (CSCE) Summit in Budapest in December 1994, the Prime Minister repeated Canada's offer to help the new democracies in Europe strengthen free media in a context of democracy and respect for human rights. Canada is already working to this end with a number of Eastern European countries on a bilateral basis.

On a multilateral basis, Canadian participation in the international television network TV5 represents an exceptional showcase for our francophone televisual productions. In addition, it projects daily a Canadian presence to millions of homes on five continents.

The celebration of Canadian culture and the promotion of Canadian cultural and educational industries, so that they can continue to compete at home and abroad, are central tenets of Canadian policy. The announcement in December 1994 of measures of support for Canadian artists and for our magazine industry underlines the Government's commitment in this regard. The Government is convinced that we can and should manage our international economic relationships so that Canadian cultural industries are effectively supported. We will remain vigilant in protecting and promoting the capacity of our important cultural industries to flourish in the global environment.