

5.0 Canada's Reputation

5.1 Personal Behaviour

- 5.1 a) Whatever legal immunities may apply to representatives abroad are counter-balanced by representatives' lack of immunity from intense local public and media scrutiny. Federal public service employees are already familiar with the intersection of public duties and private interests, and are responsible in this regard to uphold the conflict of interest measures of the *Values and Ethics Code for the Public Service*. Canadian representatives abroad find this intersection exponentially more intense, as their visibility and status as foreign envoys—and by extension their responsibility to uphold Canada's good reputation—accompanies them at all times. So too must the habit of proactively applying common sense in anticipation of public scrutiny.
- 5.1 b) All representatives are entitled to their privacy. However, it is expected that, when abroad, representatives and their dependents will behave in a manner that reflects the highest standards. Mission facilities, staff, resources, as well as official residences and staff quarters, should not be used for unofficial activities which may negatively affect Canada's reputation. This includes the use of such facilities and resources for private gain. However, dependants may work in official residences/quarters if this does not interfere with official activities and if the work is discrete in nature (for example, telework, piano lessons, writing or editing). The HOM and the Values and Ethics Division in FAC can advise in this area.