



## 1 Key Messages

- You may not give much thought to foreign affairs. But what happens beyond our borders — and how we manage it — has a real impact on our lives here in Canada.
- International issues and crises — political, humanitarian or economic — have major domestic implications, and rapid globalization draws us into contact with countries, institutions and people around the world.
- Our foreign policy is based on three main objectives — three "pillars" — that reflect the values and aspirations of Canadians: (1) prosperity and employment; (2) security within a stable global framework; and (3) the promotion of Canadian values and culture.

[Note: See the detailed presentation of the "pillars" in *The Department* section]

- Foreign policy has a growing and direct impact on jobs and economic growth, personal safety, sustainable development, cultural affirmation and social cohesion, as well as national unity.
- Our foreign policy helps the domestic economy by setting an appropriate framework for increasing Canadian exports and investment, winning contracts for our industries, promoting travel and tourism to Canada, showcasing our arts and culture abroad, and attracting top international students.
- Canada is an active player on the world scene, defending its own interests and promoting decisions that will increase the well-being of all nations and harmony among them.
- We work closely with all the major international organizations to ensure that Canadian and global interests are well served.