

An Act to Provide for the Prohibition of Certain International air Services was assented to on June 30, 1981 and came into force in Canada by proclamation on July 31, 1981. The purpose of the act is to enable Canada to apply effectively and efficiently the 1978 Bonn hijacking declaration. It allows the Governor in Council, on the advice of the Secretary of State for External Affairs, to sever air links between Canada and a state that has not extradited or prosecuted hijackers or that has not permitted the continuation of the journey of the passengers and crew of a hijacked aircraft.

Treaty law

During 1981, Canada signed 36 bilateral agreements. In the course of the year, 22 bilateral agreements entered into force for Canada upon signature and ten by ratification or the exchange of notifications. In 1981 Canada signed six multilateral agreements and ten multilateral agreements entered into force for Canada following ratification, acceptance, approval or accession.

The preparation of a list of treaties in force for Canada was completed. The first edition of this publication, Treaties in Force for Canada as of January 1, 1981, will appear in mid-1982.

In addition to its responsibility for the drafting and interpretation of treaties and for the preparation of all formal treaty instruments, the Department maintains up-to-date records on the status of all treaties affecting Canada. International agreements governed by international law to which Canada is a signatory or party are indexed in the Canada Treaty Register, which contains particulars of the date and place of signature of a treaty, the dates of tabling in, or approval by, Parliament, together with ratifications or accessions, if applicable, and information on entry into force, reservations or declarations, subsequent amendments and termination. Non-binding arrangements entered into by Canada, such as memoranda of understanding, are indexed in a separate Register of Understandings and Arrangements. (For further information, contact the Department's Treaty Section.)