

attitude, since it has always seen the central support for Canada's personality and the basis of its unity in its very differences. Our national structure will be no weaker for being rich and varied. In short, all Canadians wish to preserve and develop their European heritage. To this end, we have for some time been developing a policy of strengthening our ties with Europe and of ensuring the development of an original cultural life in Canada, French-speaking as well as English-speaking. Grants from the Canada Council and other agencies enable Canadian talent to make a start in literature, the arts and sciences. Canadian productions are encouraged on the national television and radio networks. The new National Arts Centre will be the focal point from which our two great cultures radiate. For many years the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation and the National Film Board have been producing a vast Canadian output in both languages. Canada's foreign policy gives indispensable support to this effort by favouring agreements and cultural exchanges of all kinds with Europe and the French-speaking world. In this day of communications satellites, Europe's most recent creative and cultural achievements are within our reach. We intend to make full use of these advantages.

There is an economic problem as well. More than any other industrial country, Canada relies on foreign capital and its own exports to support its economic development and its high standard of living. As our immediate neighbour, the United States, with its gigantic economy, is our main source of capital and our largest market. Thus our exchanges with that country have, and will no doubt continue to have, a role of the first importance in our economic life. However, Canada cannot restrict its economy to the North American continent alone if it wishes to retain control of its economic and political future. Canada's identity is at stake. For this reason, the Government gives strong encouragement to the directing of Canadian capital toward leading industrial areas. It urges the branches of foreign enterprises to orient their activities, especially where exports are concerned, in such a way as to accord with Canadian interests and policies. Finally, the Government is constantly making efforts to extend its market and to develop commercial and cultural relations on the widest possible base. We are well aware that such diversity assures Canada of the stability essential to its independence. It is only natural that Canada, in search of markets and investments, should turn to Europe, whose economy is enjoying a renewal of vigour and unity.

It is obvious that our efforts would be useless if, in the first place, Canadians did not share a common determination to preserve Canada's political, economic and cultural autonomy. This determination, supported by the promising dialogue between the French-speaking communities, has become very obvious.

However, Canada alone cannot bring an effort of this dimension to a successful conclusion. For this reason, it intends to expand and deepen its exchanges — particularly with France and the French-speaking countries — in economics, science, technology and culture. We hope to develop the friendly