## PRESS RELEASE

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## COMMUNIQUÉ

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## Canada Signs Agreements and <u>Understandings with Bulgaria</u>

The Honourable Paul Martin, Secretary of State for External Affairs, today tabled in the House of Commons Agreements and Understandings reached with a delegation from the People's Republic of Bulgaria led by the First Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs, Mr. Gero Grozev, which visited Ottawa June 21 to June 30. The delegation met with members of the Canadian Government and with officials of several Departments.

The Agreements tabled by Mr. Martin were reached on the establishment of diplomatic relations and on a settlement of the small number of financial claims arising from post-war nationalizations and similar measures. The Understandings reached related to consular protection, the reunification of families, and the classification of the status of dual nationals of the two countries. These interrelated documents constitute a practical step in the implementation of the Government's policy of restoring normal relations with Bulgaria and, on a broader plain, between Canada and the countries of Eastern Europe.