

- While it has roundly condemned the Pol Pot regime, Canada nonetheless legally recognises the latter as the only rightful government of Kampuchea, and it supports the Coalition Government in Exile of which the Khmer Rouge remain the most essential part.
- Canada, together with China, the United States and the ASEAN countries, has taken a hard line with the Government in Hanoi, in the hope of persuading it to withdraw its troops from Kampuchea. In pursuit of this objective, and in solidarity with its allies, Ottawa has agreed to ban Vietnam from the international community.
- Canada has not broken off diplomatic relations with Hanoi and maintains certain links with Vietnam through its embassy in Bangkok. On the other hand Vietnam receives no Canadian aid, trade between the two countries is negligible and there are virtually no contacts in other fields.
- Canada supports a political solution to the conflict in Indochina. While it is only marginally involved in this dispute it nonetheless supports the initiatives which ASEAN has taken at the United Nations, but it avoids any action which might force it to play a more active role.

In order to decide whether the above policy makes sense, one must begin by studying the complex nature of the conflict in Indochina and attempting to understand how it has developed, and what new approaches have arisen for a possible solution. The following chapters will provide such an analysis.