

Themes and Objectives of the Visit

The Prime Minister's visit to the U.S.S.R. has a number of themes and objectives. They are to:

- give a new dimension to Canada-Soviet relations;
- emphasize Canada's role in the East-West context. Prime Minister Mulroney is the only participant in all of the following summits: Commonwealth, Francophone, G-7, NATO;
- develop direct relations with Soviet leaders and hear their plans;
- demonstrate support for the reform process under way in the U.S.S.R. and in some Eastern European countries;
- support Canadian business activity in the Soviet market;
- highlight and encourage bilateral co-operation in areas such as the Arctic; the environment; and cultural, scientific, academic, sports and other people-to-people contacts;
- build on the ethnic ties between the U.S.S.R. and Canada;
- conclude major agreements on the Arctic, environment, space, foreign investment protection, nuclear co-operation, film co-production, defence exchanges and control of international drug trafficking; and
- invite President Gorbachev and the Chairman of the Council of Ministers, Mr. Ryzhkov, to visit Canada.