

# News Release

# Communiqué

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extérieures

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## VIOLATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS IN BULGARIA

The Secretary of State for External Affairs, the Right Honourable Joe Clark, today expressed Canada's concern at the action of Bulgarian authorities in forcibly breaking up a peaceful gathering by the environmental group ecoglasnost during a meeting of the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe now being held in Sofia to deal with environmental protection.

Besides being an open violation of human rights commitments contained in CSCE documents, this action contradicts undertakings given by the Bulgarian government that non-governmental organizations would be free to hold peaceful gatherings and to have contact with each other and with delegates at CSCE meetings.

Canada has expressed to the Bulgarian authorities its deep concern and its expectation that full explanations will be given and that there will be no further incident of this sort.

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Secretary of State  
for  
External Affairs

Secrétaire d'État  
aux  
Affaires extérieures

Canada