

# News Release

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## CANADA AND UKRAINE SIGN NUCLEAR CO-OPERATION AGREEMENT

Foreign Affairs Minister André Ouellet today announced that Canada and Ukraine have signed a nuclear co-operation agreement. The agreement will open the way for bilateral trade in nuclear material and equipment for peaceful purposes and help Ukraine meet its growing energy needs.

"This agreement will allow the Canadian nuclear industry to pursue commercial opportunities in support of the restructuring of Ukraine's energy sector. Canada has considerable expertise in nuclear power production, as well as in other peaceful applications of nuclear technology. Our industry can make a major contribution to Ukraine's safety, modernization and future growth," said Mr. Ouellet.

The agreement was signed today in Ottawa by Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Environment Sheila Copps and by Ukraine's Acting Head of the State Committee on the Use of Nuclear Energy, N.R. Nigmatullin. It is fully consistent with Canada's stringent nuclear non-proliferation policy. Ukraine is the 34th country with which Canada has a nuclear co-operation agreement. Both Canada and Ukraine are signatories of the nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty and have full-scope safeguards agreements with the International Atomic Energy Agency.

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