
CANADA-GERMANY RELATIONS

Many factors explain the close relationship between Canada and Germany. One is the fact that we share many foreign policy and international trade objectives. Examples include reforming and strengthening the United Nations, and the multilateral trading system through GATT.

As members of NATO, Canada and Germany are also defence partners. These ties have been strengthened by the presence of Canadian military personnel in Germany, by the training of members of the German armed forces in Canada and, most recently, by discussions on peacekeeping questions.

Heads of government, ministers and officials of both countries meet frequently through activities in the G-7, the United Nations, NATO and the CSCE.

Germany is Canada's fourth largest trading partner — after the United States, Japan and the United Kingdom. The value of two-way trade was \$5.8 billion in 1992 and continues to grow. Germany is Canada's second largest source of direct foreign investment among EC countries, following the United Kingdom. Canada is one of the leading country investors in Germany's new

states (formerly the German Democratic Republic).

Germany is Canada's most important European partner in developing and applying new technologies. One example is the application of Canadian environmental technology to clean up uranium waste in the new states.

Ongoing cultural and academic exchanges deepen understanding between the two countries. Non-governmental links have been particularly well developed by universities and organizations such as the Atlantic Brücke and the Canadian Institute for International Affairs.

There are contacts at the provincial level and between parliamentarians, as well. Ontario and Quebec have signed cultural and educational cooperative agreements with Baden-Württemberg and Bavaria, respectively.

Developing a co-ordinated and effective approach to new challenges to international peace and security is a growing area of consultation and cooperation. Co-ordinating assistance for Russia and the countries of Central and Eastern Europe and support for United Nations activities around the globe are two such priorities.