



The Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade promotes these values in our relations with individual countries and as a member of such international organizations as the United Nations, the Commonwealth, La Francophonie, the G-8 and the Organization of American States. We provide the Canadian government with advice on how to respond to human rights abuses, conflicts, development needs and other problems abroad in a way that is consistent with the values Canadians cherish. On a regular basis, we seek out the views of Canadians on how we can better reflect these values as we go about our work. And we have taken a leadership role on those international issues of greatest interest to Canadians, including the ban on landmines, promoting sustainable development and ending child labour.

DFAIT also makes a concerted effort to promote the Canadian arts and cultural industries abroad, including the performing arts, visual arts, crafts, literature and publishing, film, video and television production, and multimedia. And our international education and academic relations programs not only provide opportunities for Canadian students and scholars but also support the overseas marketing efforts of Canada's educational institutions.

OUR ORGANIZATION

The Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade is organized geographically and by issue. Our geographic bureaus manage Canada's overall relationships with specific regions and countries. Other bureaus are responsible for issues and programs worldwide, such as security and arms control, trade policy, international business development, international organizations, cultural and academic relations, legal affairs, public information programs, environment, human rights, and assistance to Canadians travelling or living abroad.