

# News Release

# Communiqué

Department of  
External  
Affairs



Ministère des  
Affaires  
extérieures

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## CANADA AND THAILAND RATIFY TREATY ON THE COOPERATION

### IN THE EXECUTION OF PENAL SENTENCES

The Secretary of State for External Affairs, the Right Honourable Joe Clark, and the Solicitor General, the Honourable James Kelleher, announced today the ratification of the Canada-Thailand Treaty on the Transfer of Sentenced Persons. The Agreement enters into force on 11 July 1988.

The instrument of ratification was deposited by the Secretary of State for External Affairs, the Right Honourable Joe Clark, during his official visit to Bangkok, July 9-11, 1988. Mr. Clark noted, "this is a good example of the cooperative relationship which exists between Canada and Thailand and illustrates our mutual desire to promote the social rehabilitation of inmates by enabling them to serve the remainder of their sentence in their home country."

Under the Agreement, an inmate may apply to serve his sentence in his country of nationality. The transfer of inmates can take place only after all rights of appeal have been exhausted in the sentencing country. No transfer will take place without the consent of the individual concerned and approval by both countries.

The transfer program is designed to promote the rehabilitation of offenders by enabling them to serve the remainder of their sentences in the country where they are nationals, close to family and friends. In Canada, the Ministry of the Solicitor General is responsible for the implementation of arrangements under the Agreement.

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Secretary of State  
for  
External Affairs

Secrétaire d'État  
aux  
Affaires extérieures

Canada

Canada has already ratified bilateral transfer of offenders agreements with France, Mexico, Peru, Bolivia, and the United States of America. Canada has also endorsed the multilateral Council of Europe Convention on the Transfer of Sentenced Persons which Austria, Cyprus, Denmark, Finland, France, Spain, Sweden, the United Kingdom, the United States of America, Switzerland, Greece, Turkey, the Netherlands, and Luxembourg have so far ratified; prisoner transfers between Canada and any of those fourteen countries are now possible under the terms of this Convention.