

# News Release

Secretary of  
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# Communiqué

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## CLARK HOLDS CONSULTATIONS IN LONDON, PRAGUE AND MOSCOW, NOVEMBER 13-17, 1990

The Secretary of State for External Affairs, the Right Honourable Joe Clark, today announced that he will visit the United Kingdom, the Czech and Slovak Federal Republic and the Soviet Union, November 13-17, to hold working consultations on a wide range of issues with senior government leaders.

On November 13, Mr. Clark will meet with his British counterpart, the Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, Mr. Douglas Hurd, to review a range of issues, including the current situation in the Gulf.

On November 14-15, Mr. Clark will be in Prague for the first ever visit to the Czech and Slovak Federal Republic (CSFR) by a Canadian Secretary of State for External Affairs.

"This working visit underlines Canadian support for Czechs and Slovaks in their resolve to restore democracy and build an open market economy in their country," said the Minister. "The reforms now under way are opening up innovative and exciting opportunities for greater co-operation between Canada and the CSFR in commercial and other areas."

Mr. Clark's meetings in Prague are aimed at consolidating and building on existing good relations between our two countries. His discussions with Deputy Premier and Minister of Foreign Affairs Jiri Dienstbier and other government representatives will focus on a broad range of bilateral issues, such as intensifying Canadian-CSFR business and trade relations. Regional and multilateral issues of concern will also be discussed, including those central to the upcoming Summit of the Conference on Security and Co-operation in Europe (CSCE) to be held in Paris the following week.

On November 16-17, Mr. Clark will visit the Soviet Union for other consultations with Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze and Soviet leaders.

"Both Canada and the U.S.S.R. are keenly interested in intensifying our bilateral relations. This visit, on the eve of the CSCE Summit, flows from our earlier agreement that our relations be put on a more active working basis," stated Mr. Clark.

"During our discussions, I will emphasize that Canada strongly supports the unprecedented reform processes which are under way in the Soviet Union. Democratization and economic liberalization are essential components in our common goal of building a prosperous and peaceful Europe."

In his meeting with Mr. Shevardnadze, the Minister will focus on strengthening existing ties between Canada and the Soviet Union, and identifying areas in which our countries can co-operate in their approach to international issues.

This working visit follows upon Prime Minister Mulroney's highly successful trip to the U.S.S.R. in 1989, during which 14 agreements were signed, and President Gorbachev's return visit to Ottawa last May.

After completing his discussions in Moscow, Mr. Clark will join the Prime Minister for the CSCE Summit being held in Paris, November 19-21, 1990.

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