

Secretary of  
State for  
External Affairs



Secrétaire d'État  
aux Affaires  
extérieures

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## McDOUGALL TO VISIT SPAIN, HOLD TALKS IN THE HAGUE AND ATTEND SUMMITS

The Secretary of State for External Affairs, the Honourable Barbara McDougall, will visit Spain July 1 and 2 to participate in Canada Day celebrations at Expo '92 in Seville, followed by an official bilateral visit to Madrid. There she will meet with King Juan Carlos, President of the Government Felipe González and new Foreign Minister Javier Solana to discuss Canada-Spain bilateral issues, including overfishing, future relations between Canada and the European Community, and European security.

"1992 is an important year for Spain, for Europe and for Canada and our ties with the European continent continue to grow," said Mrs. McDougall. "Canada's very popular pavilion in Expo '92, and our participation in the Olympics and in Madrid's special cultural activities will serve to strengthen our bilateral ties with Spain, and provide Canada with a unique access to Europe now and in the years to come," added the Minister.

Spain is fast becoming one of Canada's major trading partners. The value of Canada's two-way trade with Spain reached almost \$1 billion in 1991, nearly twice as much as it was only six years ago.

After Madrid, Mrs. McDougall will travel to The Hague where she will meet her colleague, Dutch Foreign Minister Hans van den Broek. The two ministers will discuss bilateral issues of mutual interest and broader European issues such as Yugoslavia, peacekeeping and the Multilateral Trade Negotiations. The Netherlands is Canada's third largest European trading partner.

Following her talks in The Hague, Mrs. McDougall will attend the Economic Summit in Munich and the Summit of the Conference on Security and Co-operation in Europe in Helsinki.

An itinerary and a backgrounder are attached.

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For further information, media representatives may contact:  
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VISIT OF SECRETARY OF STATE FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

JULY 1-10, 1992

ITINERARY IN EUROPE

- July 1            Seville: Canada Day at the 1992 World Exposition
- July 2            Madrid: Official visit to Spain. Meetings with  
King Juan Carlos, President of the Government  
González and Foreign Minister Solana
- July 3            The Hague: Working visit to the Netherlands.  
Meeting with Foreign Minister van den Broek
- July 6-8          Munich: G-7 Economic Summit
- July 9-10        Helsinki: Summit of the Conference on Security and  
Co-operation in Europe

## BACKGROUND

### CANADA-SPAIN BILATERAL RELATIONS

- Canada's bilateral relations with Spain have been growing rapidly in a wide variety of fields, including trade, investment, foreign policy and culture.
- President of the Government Felipe González visited Canada in 1990 and King Juan Carlos came to Canada in October 1991. The Secretary of State for External Affairs Barbara McDougall met Foreign Minister Ordoñez in June 1991, and International Trade Minister Michael Wilson led a business delegation to Spain in July of the same year. Defence Minister Marcel Masse went to Spain last December to explore opportunities in defence industrial co-operation.
- In foreign policy, Canada and Spain share interest in human rights, peacekeeping and disarmament, matters in which an active dialogue has been initiated.
- Canada and Spain have been closely involved in efforts to bring lasting peace to the Middle East and Central America.
- An enduring problem in the bilateral relationship is overfishing. Efforts are being made to resolve this issue.
- With a GDP of \$510 billion in 1990, Spain is the world's tenth industrial power and the fifth largest economy in Europe.
- The value of Canada's trade with Spain was more than \$940 million in 1991, roughly twice as much as it was only six years ago.
- Canadian exports, totalling \$483 million, comprised mainly mineral ores and fuels, aircraft parts and machinery.
- Imports from Spain, reaching \$460 million, consisted principally of rubber products, footwear, machinery and electrical equipment.
- Spain is now one of the top 10 destinations for Canadian investment abroad.
- Some 200 000 Canadian tourists visit Spain each year, and about 2 000 Canadians live there permanently.
- Canada has some 50 000 citizens of Spanish origin, mostly in Toronto and Montreal.