



14 June 2021

EU-CANADA RELATIONS

TAKING FORWARD A VIBRANT PARTNERSHIP

Canada is one of the EU's closest partners. Respect for democratic principles, human rights and fundamental freedoms and a commitment to the rules-based international order underpin this partnership.

Our relationship with Canada is one of the oldest the EU has with any industrialised country, dating back to 1959. Through the decades, it has transformed into a key partnership, strengthening the ability of both partners to tackle global challenges. The EU and Canada also work closely together in the framework of the G7 and G20.

STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP



In 2016, the EU and Canada signed the **Strategic Partnership Agreement (SPA)** and **Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement (CETA)**, lifting the relationship to a new level.

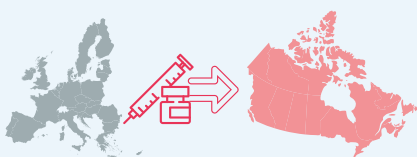


The SPA entered into force on a provisional basis on 1 April 2017, setting the framework for deepening our political relationship. It **upgrades foreign policy and sectoral cooperation** in 28 different thematic and geographic areas - from peace and security to human rights, citizens' well-being, research, innovation, education, fight against climate change, environmental protection and energy security.



This agreement provides for **regular dialogues**, from the Leaders' Summit level through Foreign Ministers' meetings to expert level meetings in specific areas, such as security and defence, development, climate change and innovation.

DEFEAT THE PANDEMIC AND STEER A SUSTAINABLE GLOBAL RECOVERY



EU EXPORTED MORE THAN
16 million
VACCINE DOSES

60% OF ALL VACCINES
DELIVERED TO
CANADA

Right from the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic, the EU and Canada have taken steps to promote **international solidarity** and to foster a **multilateral response** to this global health crisis. In May 2020, the EU and Canada co-hosted the EU-led Coronavirus Global Response Conference, and since then have displayed unwavering support to the WHO and the multilateral institutions coordinating the international response to the pandemic.

The EU has played an important role in **supporting Canada's vaccination campaign**. Up to 1 June 2021, it has exported more than 16 million vaccine doses to Canada, representing 60% of all vaccines delivered to Canada. Both the EU and Canada fund the COVAX facility to ensure access to vaccines in low- and middle-income countries. The EU and Canada support a strong global economic recovery and sustainable and inclusive growth. Both have passed budgets and recovery funds that foresee major investments in the green and digital transition.

PROTECT CLIMATE AND THE ENVIRONMENT



The EU and Canada are **committed to fighting the urgent and interlinked challenges of climate change and biodiversity loss** – in the air, on earth and in the oceans. They also affirm their commitment to the swift, full and effective implementation of the Paris Agreement and to their **shared objective of net-zero greenhouse gas emissions by 2050**.



Working hand in hand to achieve these shared objectives, the EU and Canada host **regular dialogues on climate, environment, energy and ocean governance**, and joint multilateral initiatives such as the Ministerial on Climate Action, co-convened together with China (the fifth edition took place on 23 March 2021).

*The EU and Canada have recently organised **two workshops on clean technology**, which brought together innovators and users, industry associations, international business development experts and government representatives to present environment and trade cooperation opportunities between Canada and the EU. The workshops highlighted how **CETA can help achieve sustainable development and net-zero emissions objectives through clean technology trade and investment.***



HARNESS THE POTENTIAL OF TRADE, TECHNOLOGY AND INNOVATION



The EU-Canada Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement (CETA), signed at the EU-Canada Summit in October 2016 and provisionally applied since September 2017, **cuts tariffs and makes it easier to trade in goods and services**, benefitting people and businesses in both the EU and Canada.



Duties on 98% of products that the EU trades with Canada have been removed and, over the course of the next few years, a further 1% of tariff lines will be phased out. Three and a half years into the agreement, figures speak for themselves. Bilateral trade between the EU27 and Canada has increased by 27% for goods and 39% for services as compared to the pre-CETA situation. EU exports to Canada are growing at a stronger pace (+9% in 2019 compared to 2018) than EU exports to the rest of the world (+3.5%).



The EU is Canada's 2nd most important trading partner.

TOTAL
MERCHANDISE
TRADE BETWEEN
CANADA AND THE
EU REACHED



**€66.8
billion**
IN 2019

+ 27% INCREASE COMPARED TO 2016

BILATERAL
TRADE IN
SERVICES
INCREASED BY



+ 39%
BETWEEN
2016 AND 2019

€35.6 billion
IN 2019

TOTAL BILATERAL
TRADE IN
ENVIRONMENTAL
GOODS GREW



+ 17%
BETWEEN
2016 AND 2019

FROM **€6.1 billion** IN 2016
TO **€7.1 billion** IN 2019

MAIN GOODS IN TRADE



AGRICULTURAL



MACHINERY



TRANSPORT EQUIPMENT



CHEMICAL & PHARMACEUTICAL PRODUCTS

CETA does not just work for the benefit of companies. CETA is one of the most progressive agreements the EU has ever concluded. It has some of the strongest commitments ever included in a trade deal to **promote labour rights, environmental protection and sustainable development**. CETA integrates the EU's and Canada's commitments to apply international rules on workers' rights, environmental protection and climate action. These obligations are binding, with the same legal value as any other provision.



The EU has a strong and successful history of Science, Technology, and Innovation (STI) collaboration with Canada, which goes back to 1959 with the signing of the Agreement for Cooperation in the Peaceful Uses of Atomic Energy. It continues with the **Canada-EU Agreement for Scientific and Technological Cooperation**. Under this agreement, Canada and the EU have established priority areas for STI cooperation, which include aerospace, agriculture and agri-food, Arctic and marine (under the Galway Statement on Atlantic Ocean Cooperation), information communication technologies (including Artificial Intelligence and Quantum computing), health, researcher mobility and research infrastructure.



PEOPLE-TO-PEOPLE CONTACTS

Academic mobility: since 2014, the EU has funded through Erasmus+ almost 1,900 mobilities of Canadian higher education students and staff. In the same period, 224 Canadian researchers have benefited from the Marie Skłodowska-Curie actions, which promote collaboration between academic, scientific and business communities in Europe and beyond.



The **promotion of Peace, Security and Democracy** constitutes an important pillar of EU-Canada Strategic Partnership Agreement. The EU and Canada regularly hold Senior Official Level Dialogues on Security and Defence, and the first EU Military Advisor/Defence Attaché to Canada is accredited in Ottawa since 2020.

Since 2003, Canada has contributed to EU civilian and military missions in Africa, Asia, Europe and the Middle East. Canadian experts currently participate in the EU mission supporting Palestinian police in the West Bank, the EU advisory mission in Ukraine and the EU capacity-building mission in Mali.

The EU has recently invited Canada (together with the US and Norway) to participate in the EU PESCO (Permanent Structured Cooperation) project on Military Mobility, aimed at improving military mobility within and beyond the EU.

The EU and Canada jointly address new types of threats and challenges – including combatting hybrid threats (e.g. attacks on infrastructures in the cyberspace and disinformation campaigns).