

# Unit IV: Canada's International Relations



# Foreign Policy

- outlines how a country will interact with other countries in a way that promotes and protects their interests
- stems from prevailing values of society as interpreted by the government



# Instruments of Foreign Policy

## 1. TRADE

- to facilitate the exchange of goods and services among countries, Canadian direct investment abroad, and foreign direct investment in Canada
- to ensure Canada's competitiveness and prosperity in an increasingly globalized world by forming new international alliances and joint ventures

- the goals of trade are:
  - a. to draw talent, innovation, and investment
  - b. to advance our relationship with select trading partners
  - c. to provide the right services to business
- there are 800 Trade Commissions in more than 140 locations abroad
- Trade Commissions are also located in provinces, territories and municipalities to help them access international markets
- international trade is worth over a \$trillion to Canada's economy

## 2. MILITARY

Three objectives:

- i. to protect Canada
- ii. to contribute to world peace and security
- iii. to protect Canadian interests abroad and enhance our role



- responsibility of the Department of National Defense (DND)
- budget is one of the largest, in excess of \$12 billion/yr
- armed forces include *Navy, Air Force, Army, and Reserves*
- used for **combat** (WWI, WWII, Korean War, Kosovo, Afghanistan) and/or **peacekeeping** (trying to maintain peace and order) and more recently, for **stabilizing failed and fragile states** (governments which cannot protect its own people)

### 3. DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE

- used to be called 'foreign aid'
- originated modestly in response to 1950 crisis in Ceylon (Sri Lanka)
- spends approximately \$2.4 billion/yr



- responsibility of the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA)
- CIDA sends thousands of Canadians to over 100 countries for water education, health, sanitation, agricultural etc projects designed to improve lives
- now asked to focus on a core group of 25 countries
- other roles include training police and administering elections





## 4. DIPLOMACY

- communication and collaboration with other countries to:
  - i. build networks of influence
  - ii. promote multilateralism
  - iii. ensure a strong and influential Canadian voice on the international stage



- responsibility of the Department of Foreign Affairs
- used to advance military, trade, and international development assistance objectives
- duties also include: global immigration policy and participating on international bodies such as the UN, NATO, G8, G20, OECD, IOC, ICJ, WTO, EU-TIEA, IPCC, and NAFTA