October 2026

EU-CANADA RELATIONS

The European Union and Canada are **strategically important partners and close friends**. Relations are deeply rooted in trust, and shaped by **strong historical, cultural, political** and **economic ties**. Our partnership is grounded in **shared values**: democracy, human rights, the rule of law, the multilateral rules-based international order, and free and fair trade. Canada is also a G7 partner and NATO ally, as well as an unwavering supporter of Ukraine.

A vibrant relationship based on two institutional pillars

Since 2017, EU-Canada relations have been framed by two key agreements, both provisionally applied, that provide a solid foundation for a partnership built on shared values and mutual prosperity.

STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENT (SPA)

The SPA provides a closer political dialogue and cooperation on foreign and security policy, as well as on sectoral issues, such as economic and sustainable development; justice freedom and security; innovation and research.

COMPREHENSIVE ECONOMIC AND TRADE AGREEMENT (CETA)

The CETA is one of the EU's most ambitious and comprehensive trade agreements, making trade in goods and services easier for businesses and citizens alike.

80%

growth in bilateral trade under CETA between 2016 and 2025

AN ENCOMPASSING AND AMBITIOUS STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP

In recent years, our cooperation has further deepened:

2017	2021	2023	2024	2025	2026
CETA and SPA Provisionally applied	**Strategic Partnership** on Raw Materials	**Green Alliance** and **Digital Partnership**	**Horizon Europe** Canada associated to Pillar II	**Security and Defence Partnership**	**Canada joins SAFE**

THE WAY FORWARD

The EU and Canada are taking their partnership to an unprecedented level.

We are starting to shape **the idea of Canada as an associate member of the European Union**. To achieve this, we want to shape more policies together, expand Canada's participation in EU programmes and deepen cooperation between our institutions.

We are launching an **Alliance for the Future**. Together, we want to create a common space for growth, prosperity, resilience, and economic security.

We are already turning this ambition into action. At the 2026 Summit, we are taking concrete steps to deepen cooperation in key sectors for the future, from AI and space to critical raw materials.

THE EU AND CANADA IN FIGURES

TRADE & INVESTMENT

€130 BILLION
Bilateral trade in goods and services

+80%
growth in bilateral trade under CETA between 2016 and 2025

678,000
jobs supported in the EU in 2024

153,000 MORE
than before CETA

Estimated **€3.2 billion** increase of EU's GDP by each year because of the deal

SECURITY AND DEFENCE

June 2025
EU-Canada **Security and Defence Partnership** signed to address shared security challenges and their impact on our citizens

1st NON-EUROPEAN COUNTRY
to join **SAFE**, the EU's €150 billion defence instrument

* Preferential access to joint defence procurement
* Financial contribution to support Ukraine's defence industry

$25.5 / €16 BILLION
committed by Canada to support **Ukraine** since 2022

EU-CANADA CONSULAR SUPPORT
Mutual support for evacuations of EU and Canadian citizens in the Middle East and Nepal

PEOPLE TO-PEOPLE

7,000+
Erasmus+ exchanges of higher education students and staff since 2021

83%
of Canadians want closer ties with the EU (Sept. 2026 poll, Source: Nanos for the Globe and Mail)

155 JOINT RESEARCH PROJECTS
under Horizon Europe to solve global challenges

€61 MILLION
Horizon Europe funding for Canadian entities