



COMPENDIUM OF CANADA'S ENGAGEMENT IN INTERNATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL AGREEMENTS AND INSTRUMENTS

Cooperation on Environment and Climate Change under the Canada-European Union Strategic Partnership Agreement

SUBJECT CATEGORY:

Environmental Cooperation

TYPE OF AGREEMENT / INSTRUMENT:

Bilateral

FORM:

Legally-binding treaty

STATUS:

The Canada-EU Strategic Partnership Agreement was signed by Canada on October 30, 2016

LEAD & PARTNER DEPARTMENTS:

Lead: Environment and Climate Change Canada (environment and climate change cooperation); Global Affairs Canada (Strategic Partnership Agreement)

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION:**Web Links:**

[Text of the Canada-European Union Strategic Partnership Agreement](#)

[Annual Report on the State of the EU-Canada Relationship](#)

[Joint Statement of the 1st meeting of the EU-Canada Joint Ministerial Committee under the Canada-EU Strategic Partnership Agreement](#)

[Joint Declaration of the Canada-EU Strategic Partnership Agreement Joint Ministerial Committee](#)

Contacts:

[ECCC Inquiry Centre](#)

COMPENDIUM EDITION:

January 2020

PLAIN LANGUAGE SUMMARY

The Canada-EU Strategic Partnership Agreement (SPA) was signed in parallel to the Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement, and seeks to broaden Canada's cooperation with the EU on a wide range of issues including international peace and security, migration, human rights, sustainable development, and innovation. The SPA formalizes and expands cooperation efforts related to the High Level Dialogues on the Environment and Climate Change.

OBJECTIVE

The High-Level Dialogues on the Environment and Climate Change support Canada's relationship with the EU on those issues, providing opportunities for both Parties to share best practices and promote effective and inclusive cooperation on climate change and other issues relating to environmental protection.

KEY ELEMENTS

The SPA represents the new foundation for the Canadian-EU relations, and commits Parties to hold regular High-Level Dialogues on the Environment and Climate Change.

EXPECTED RESULTS

The two High-Level Dialogues provide opportunities to capitalize on substantive discussions on environmental and climate change issues of mutual importance and help Canada and the EU identify areas of cooperation.

CANADA'S INVOLVEMENT

The EU is an active and important player domestically and internationally, in the areas of climate change and environment. It is also very influential in many fora where Canada is also present. Therefore, developing a strong relationship with the EU supports Canada's international leadership in areas related to the environment and addressing climate change.

RESULTS / PROGRESS**Activities**

While the High Level Dialogue on the Environment takes place every eighteen months or so in either Ottawa or Brussels, the High Level Dialogue on Climate Change has been less formal and held on the margins of meetings under

the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC).

Canada hosted the most recent Canada-EU High Level Dialogue on the Environment in Ottawa on October 24, 2017, and the most recent Canada-EU High Level Dialogue on Climate Change in Brussels, Belgium on May 24, 2018. The next High-Level Dialogues will be hosted by the EU at a later date.

Reports

The Joint Cooperation Committee established under the SPA provides annual reports on the state of Canada's relationship with the EU to the Joint Ministerial Committee, also established under the SPA. The reports can be found in the [SPA Government of Canada webpage](#).