

# European Community



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## PRESS RELEASE

### EC OPPOSES CANADIAN FOOTWEAR IMPORT RESTRICTIONS

The EC Commission has handed over to the Canadian government on 12 December 1977 a verbal note protesting against the restrictions taken by the Canadian government under article XIX of the GATT on the importation of footwear into Canada. The restrictions are instituted for a three-year period beginning 1 December 1977, on the basis of a global annual quota corresponding to the average level of imports during the period 1974 to 1976.

The Commission affirms that Community exports have not disrupted the Canadian market, as Community exporters have not contributed to the declining share of Canadian producers in the domestic market. On the contrary, Community imports into Canada over the 1975-1976 period declined slightly from a 12 per cent to a 11.7 per cent market share. The Commission has, while reserving its rights under art. XIX GATT, requested the Canadian government, in the spirit of cooperation under the EC-Canada Framework Agreement, to seek practical solutions which would allow to maintain the share of market traditionally held by Community exporters.

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