
STUDYING CANADA FROM THE EU

Twenty-seven European students have descended on Canada as part of the Thinking Canada program in which they study Canada and Canada-EU relations. They landed in Ottawa, and from here are travelling to Quebec, Montreal, Toronto, Vancouver and Victoria. Their 25-page itinerary takes them to meetings with provincial and municipal governments, NGOs and think-tanks.

Cristiana Mattioli, who is doing a PhD in architecture at the Politecnico di Milano, said it's useful for her "to have a wide view of Canada and Canadian cities.

"Besides the discovery of Canada and Canadian society, it's interesting to be in a group of students coming from different European countries. It's important that I not only feel like an Italian citizen but also a European one. In this period in particular, I think we need that."

Aleksandrs Dahs is enrolled in European studies at the University of Latvia; he said studying Canada's system will be useful to him. "At this point, the EU is an unidentified political object, bringing so many people and languages together. Can-

ada has a lot to offer: diversity, regional development, economics and co-operation with the (Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement) coming. We're learning how business is conducted, what the institutions are and we're taking that all back to Europe."

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