

**The White House vs. the U.S. Congress:
A Case Study of
the 1994 Uruguay Round Agreements Act**

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Abstract

The Uruguay Round of negotiations to revise the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT) began in September 1986 in Punta del Este, Uruguay. Negotiations were concluded in April 1994 in Morocco. The Uruguay Round was the eighth renegotiation of GATT, which was created at the end of World War II and governs most world trade. The pact was intended to sharply reduce trade barriers, including tariffs, import quotas and subsidies. This study examines the ratification of the Uruguay Round Trade Agreements Act from executive-congressional conflict perspective. The first part of this study analyzes congressional assertiveness on the 1994 GATT Accord from the perspective of institutional and electoral motives. The second part of this study examines the background of the Uruguay Round of negotiations and its likely impacts on U.S. economy. The third part of this study analyzes strategie and tactics used by the Clinton Administration to gain congressional support. The U.S. Congress finally approved the Uruguay Round Trade Agreements at the end of 1994. The approval offers another case in which U.S. presidential preferences prevail over those of Congress.

Key Words: Executive-Congressional Politics, Uruguay Round Agreements Act, "Fast-Track Procedure," Budget Waiver, Clinton's Lobbying Tactics