

and the environment - the 1990s energy surrogate - 43%.⁷ Compliance with macroeconomic commitments in the Lyon study, on the other hand, secure the highest score across Summit members (100%), while corresponding scores in the von Furstenberg and Daniels study find that macroeconomic issues secure an overall combined average score of 27%.⁸ Commitments regarding the Middle East and Asia both receive compliance scores in the negative range (-43%), broadly consistent with earlier studies by Kokotsis which found that political commitments stemming from departments of foreign affairs generally secure lower overall compliance scores than those stemming from departments of finance.

2. Patterns and Analysis of Summit Compliance

Given that Summit declarations are not legally binding documents, that no formal enforcement mechanism exists to ensure that implementation systematically occurs, that domestic circumstances and leadership change from year to year, and that some commitments are superseded by subsequent agreements, one might expect the compliance with G7 Summit resolutions would be low. The studies outlined above suggest, however, that over time, the Summit has become more active in generating agreements that are specific, identifiable and measurable, that compliance with Summit commitments has been positive, and that positive compliance is a wide-spread phenomena - in other words, the most powerful US, and least powerful Canada and

⁷ Note that environment issues greatly increase in salience during the third cycle of summity, and are not considered as an issue area in the von Furstenberg and Daniels study. The authors do examine, however, energy commitments during the first two cycles of summity and conclude that energy commitments secure the second highest level of compliance by the G7, next to international trade commitments. Given that energy resolutions re the logical antecedent in the G7 to environmental commitments, comparisons are drawn in this study between environment and energy commitments".

⁸ Note that included in the "macroeconomic" category for von Furstenberg and Daniels is: real GNP growth (40%); demand composition (23%); fiscal adjustments (26%); interest rate (22%); inflation rate (22%). The average of these five categories combined is 27%.