

Current estimates for the duration of the Uruguay Round vary from 4 to 10 years. If the United States and Canada can succeed in putting together an agreement in these new areas over the coming year, we can act as both a catalyst and an example to the rest of the world. But if we fail, the unhappy omen will be there for all to see.

If the United States and Canada cannot strike a deal, who can?

The third level at which a bilateral trade agreement holds potentially significant benefits for the United States is a broader one.

Prime Minister Mulroney has stated emphatically that Canada's support for U.S. strategic, political and security objectives follows inextricably from our shared values and interests and from our responsibilities as an independent member of the Western Alliance. We do not expect or ask the United States to pay for our friendship with commercial concessions. But it is a political fact that relations between states are, in the final analysis, one and indivisible.