

The second compliance study, conducted by Kokotsis, and Kokotsis and Kirton<sup>3</sup>, analyzes the G7's compliance record from 1988-1995 in regard to the G7's environment and development commitments that have flourished during this "post-cold war" period. This study explores the compliance record of the G7's most and least powerful members, the United States and Canada, in an effort to examine the effects on compliance of overall relative capability and to explore the way differences in national institutions affect compliance outcomes. It does so by examining compliance with G7 commitments in four issue areas critical to the global environment and development: climate change; biodiversity; developing country debt; and assistance to Russia. The period from 1988-1995 provides an era of sustained Summit attention to, and important action on these issues, one over which Summit attention and ambition has varied, and one where lags in compliance are visible. This combination of eight years, two countries, and four issue areas including 83 specific commitments offers enough cases to identify compliance patterns and isolate key compliance variables (*see Table B*).

During this third summit cycle, the G7 produced a large number of specific and often ambitious environment and development commitments - 34 regarding climate change, 15 regarding biodiversity, 13 regarding developing country debt, and 21 regarding assistance to Russia. Canadian and US compliance with these commitments has generally been positive, with an overall combined score of 43%. Yet wide variations appear by country, issue area and over time. Canada's net score of 53% contrasts with the US net score of 34%. Compliance is much higher in regard to assistance to Russia

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Ascertaining the Degree of Compliance", *Carnegie Rochester Conference Series on Public Policy*, 35, 1991. pp. 267-308.

<sup>3</sup> See, Kokotsis, Ella, *National Compliance with G7 Environment and Development Commitments, 1989-1995*, Ph.D. Dissertation, University of Toronto, January, 1998; Kokotsis, Ella and John Kirton, "National Compliance with Environmental Regimes: the Case of the G7, 1988-1995". Paper presented at the Annual Convention of the International Studies Association, Toronto, Ontario, March 18-22, 1997.