

The 1991 August Putsch, in Historical Photographs

August 21, 2018



On Aug. 19, 1991, hard-line members of the Communist Party attempted to wrest control of the Soviet Union from Soviet President and General Secretary Mikhail Gorbachev. The grab for power was partially in [response](#) to talks Gorbachev had begun with the leaders of the Soviet Union's most influential republics, with a view to offering them greater powers and independence. Today, the event is considered to have been pivotal in the fall of the USSR.

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