

# INSIDE OBAMA'S PRESIDENCY

1 X 54 HD



PBS®

INTERNATIONAL

# INSIDE OBAMA'S PRESIDENCY

1 X 54 HD

---

CONTACT

Tom Koch, Vice President  
PBS International  
10 Guest Street  
Boston, MA 02135 USA

TEL: +1-617-208-0735  
FAX: +1-617-208-0783

jt Koch@pbs.org  
pbsinternational.org

*Inside Obama's Presidency* takes a penetrating look at President Barack Obama's first term, going behind closed doors to examine the first four years of the Obama administration and the decisions that led to health care reform, the expanded drone war, the economic stimulus package, and the failure to compromise with Congress that created the fiscal cliff crisis. *Inside Obama's Presidency* is an unflinching view of the sometimes painful political realities of governing in modern-day Washington.

When Barack Obama won the presidency in 2008, he was confronted by a daunting list of challenges: a collapsing economy, two wars, the pursuit of Al Qaeda, and his own promise to fix the bitter partisanship that plagued and divided Washington. FRONTLINE tells the behind-the-scenes story of how the president decided to move forward on major health care reform despite growing Republican opposition and against the advice of many of his top advisers. It took almost a year for health care reform to pass, and it came at a great political cost. Meanwhile, the new president was struggling with a host of other issues, including the growing Tea Party movement, a groundswell of anger at the government bailouts of Wall Street, and an expanding secret war against terrorist networks.

By 2011, Obama confronted a new problem: a Republican-controlled House of Representatives that was threatening to vote against a debt ceiling increase. The president was warned that the country could default, with catastrophic consequences. But Obama and House Speaker John Boehner believed they could agree on a Grand Bargain that would stave off default, fix the country's finances, and prove that bipartisanship was still possible. When the Grand Bargain fell apart, Obama was furious. The failure of the deal created a new problem: the fiscal cliff. Close advisers say it served as a reality check for the president. He came into office promising change, but returned to the campaign trail a changed leader.

Through a rich archive of films and hundreds of interviews, *Inside Obama's Presidency* serves as an intimate look at the president's first term and offers a revealing glimpse into his final four years in office.

1312210

**FRONTLINE**

CREDITS

*Producers:* Michael Kirk, Jim Gilmore, Mike Wiser

*Director:* Michael Kirk

*FRONTLINE Executive Producer:* David Fanning

*FRONTLINE Deputy Executive Producer:* Raney Aronson-Rath

*Photo:* Courtesy of Doug Mills/New York Times



**PBS**

INTERNATIONAL