

The Obama Administration's Transformative Approach to National Security Law

Key Features of the Obama Administration's Approach to National Security Law

The Obama administration's approach to national security law was based on a number of key principles:

- **A focus on targeted killing rather than detention and interrogation.** The Obama administration argued that targeted killing was a more effective and less costly way to disrupt terrorist networks than detention and interrogation. However, the administration's use of targeted killing also raised a number of legal and ethical concerns.
- **An expansion of surveillance powers.** The Obama administration argued that increased surveillance was necessary to prevent terrorist attacks. However, the administration's surveillance programs also sparked a number of privacy concerns.
- **A commitment to international law.** The Obama administration emphasized its commitment to international law, including the Geneva Conventions and the United Nations Charter. However, the administration also took a number of actions that were criticized as violating international law, such as the use of targeted killing outside of war zones.
- **A focus on multilateralism.** The Obama administration sought to build a consensus with other countries on national security issues. The administration worked closely with allies on issues such as counterterrorism and nuclear non-proliferation.

Impact of the Obama Administration's Approach to National Security Law

The Obama administration's approach to national security law had a significant impact on the legal framework for national security. The administration's policies and practices reshaped the law in a number of areas, including:

- **The use of targeted killing.** The Obama administration's use of targeted killing has been upheld by the courts, but it is still subject to a number of legal and ethical challenges.
- **The expansion of surveillance powers.** The Obama administration's expansion of surveillance powers has been upheld by the courts, but it is still subject to a number of privacy concerns.
- **The commitment to international law.** The Obama administration's emphasis on international law has helped to strengthen the global legal framework for national security.
- **The focus on multilateralism.** The Obama administration's focus on multilateralism has helped to build a consensus on national security issues among a number of countries.

Legacy of the Obama Administration's Approach to National Security Law

The Obama administration's approach to national security law will continue to be debated for years to come. However, there is no doubt that the administration's policies and practices have had a significant impact on the legal landscape for national security. The administration's shift away from detention and interrogation, its expansion of surveillance powers, and its

commitment to international law have reshaped the way that the United States approaches national security.



Speaking the Law: The Obama Administration's Addresses on National Security Law (Hoover Institution Press Publication Book 639) by Kenneth Anderson

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The Obama administration's legacy on national security law is a complex one. The administration's policies and practices have been both praised and criticized. However, there is no doubt that the administration's approach to national security law has had a significant impact on the United States and the world.



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