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## Intelligence Squared debate: The president has constitutional power to target and kill U.S. citizens abroad.

By Nicholas Quinn Rosenkranz, Updated: March 6 at 11:26 pm

[Intelligence Squared](#) presented one of its best debates Wednesday night at the [National Constitution Center](#) in Philadelphia — “Resolved: The President has constitutional power to target and kill U.S. citizens abroad.”

Arguing for the motion were Alan Dershowitz, professor of law, Harvard Law School; and Michael Lewis, professor of law, Ohio Northern University School of Law. Arguing against the motion were Noah Feldman, professor of law, Harvard Law School; and Hina Shamsi, director of the ACLU National Security Project. All four debaters were superb.

Intelligence Squared generally presents policy debates; this was the first that was framed as a pure constitutional question. It was also the first to take place in Philadelphia, on Independence Mall – hallowed ground for constitutional debate, as Noah Feldman pointed out. And this debate happened to be particularly timely: [President Obama is apparently considering targeting and killing another U.S. citizen right now](#).

Details, results, and video, of the Intelligence Squared debate are available [here](#).

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