"You can't have 100% security and also then have 100% privacy..."

– Barack Obama

*Statement by the President of the United States.*

7 June 2013. Fairmont Hotel, San Jose, California

"Preventative detention orders are not effective, not appropriate and not necessary. They should simply be abolished."

– Bret Walker SC


20 December 2012.

In the light of recent cases of journalists obtaining national security information, discuss whether national security agencies such as the NSA and ASIO should be **equally subject to the rule of law principles** of accountability, transparency and public scrutiny as other executive government agencies.

In particular, what protections, if any, should there be for journalists and sources who disclose information about their operations?


**Word limit:** 2000 words including footnotes.

**Open to:** All students enrolled in Undergraduate or Postgraduate Journalism Programs at University of Technology, Sydney.

**Closing date:** Friday 27 June, 2014

**Submission requirements:** Please submit two hard copies to the Australian Centre for Independent Journalism Office, Bon Marche Level 5, and an electronic copy to jan.mcclelland@uts.edu.au

Full transcript of President Obama’s statement:

[http://1.usa.gov/1hj34fz](http://1.usa.gov/1hj34fz)

2012 Annual Report of the National Security Legislation Monitor see:


The Submissions to the 2013 Senate Inquiry into Potential Reforms of National Security Legislation and final report are available:

[http://bit.ly/1i3cA7n](http://bit.ly/1i3cA7n)

The **Rule of Law Institute of Australia** is an independent, non-partisan organisation which promotes discussion of rule of law issues in Australia. Its primary interest is in promoting education opportunities for secondary and tertiary students to understand the importance of principles such as the freedom of the media in maintaining the rule of law.

The **Australian Centre for Independent Journalism** (ACIJ) produces high quality investigative journalism, and is a leading provider of continuing education short courses in journalism and media education.