

**Smart Government vs. Deep State  
State and Nation, Delegitimization and Political  
Vision, in Barack Obama and Donald Trump's  
Presidential Speeches**

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*Abstract*

*This paper focuses on the rhetorical language adopted by Barack Obama and Donald Trump in their presidential messages. In particular, it explores how those messages are able substantially to delineate two opposing views on the concepts of state, citizenship and American identity.*

**Keywords:** presidential leadership; delegitimization; political discourse; Barack Obama; Donald Trump.