

# Attorney General Michael Mukasey calls on Congress to take dramatic steps to subvert the Constitution.

By [Caroline Fredrickson](#)

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Region: [USA](#)

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Dear ACLU Supporter,

Here they go again. On Monday, Bush's Attorney General, Michael Mukasey, called on Congress to take dramatic steps to subvert the Constitution.

Mukasey is demanding that Congress issue a new declaration of war that would make the entire globe — including the United States itself — a "battlefield" where the president decides who will be locked up forever.

Instead of ending the Bush system of injustice, he wants Congress to make it permanent.

[Tell Congress to reject the Bush/Mukasey plan to subvert the Constitution.](#)

Not only has Bush's Attorney General called on Congress to issue a new declaration of war, but he is also asking Congress to:

1. Gut *habeas corpus* — the freedom that protects people from being thrown in prison illegally — with no help, no end in sight and no due process.
2. Cover up the Bush administration's systemic torture and abuse of detainees. Judges would not be allowed to see evidence of torture and abuse and would instead simply have to trust that a president is holding the right people as "enemy combatants."

With only five weeks left in the congressional schedule and only six months left in the Bush presidency, Mukasey's power grab should be laughed out of town.

But, given this Congress' track record, the Mukasey proposal is no laughing matter.

[Tell Congress to reject the Bush/Mukasey plan to subvert the Constitution.](#)

Too many times, we've seen Congress cave in to the most outrageous Bush demands for out-of-control powers: The Patriot Act. National Security Letters. The Military Commissions Act. The Protect America Act. And, most recently, the congressional sell-out on FISA.

Four times the Supreme Court has rejected the Bush administration's efforts to design a war on terror system of injustice that defies the Constitution and mocks the rule of law. In the past, the administration has responded, not by respecting the Constitution, but by counting on Congress to legitimize its indefensible conduct.

There is no way we can let that happen this time. Even as the House Judiciary Committee investigates whether high-level Bush White House officials may have committed crimes of torture and abuse, the Bush administration has the arrogance to ask Congress to give it the power to detain people without trial and hide torture and abuse from the courts.

[Tell Congress to reject the Bush/Mukasey plan to subvert the Constitution.](#)

We can't take for granted that Congress will reject the Bush/Mukasey plan. We have to meet this outrageous proposal with an immediate wall of protest that says to Congress: "Don't you dare."

I urge you to join defenders of freedom all across the country in raising your voice against Attorney General Mukasey's dangerous proposal.

Thanks for speaking out,

Caroline Fredrickson, Director  
ACLU Washington Legislative Office

P.S. You can read a blog post from Christopher Anders, ACLU Senior Legislative Counsel, on the Bush/Mukasey plan to subvert the constitution [here](#).

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