

## MEDIA RELEASE

# Allies for Uluru Coalition endorse First Nations Voice Referendum question

**23 March 2023**

The [Allies for Uluru Coalition](#) – representing more than 180 civil society organisations across the country – welcome and endorse the agreed wording for constitutional change and a First Nations Voice to Parliament announced by the Prime Minister today.

We have heard the message of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander leaders of the Uluru Statement From the Heart seeking Voice, Treaty, Truth and we stand with the hundreds of thousands of First Nations people that are calling for this simple and modest reform.

As the [Prime Minister said today](#):

“Recognising Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Australians in our Constitution is the best chance this country has had to address the injustices of the past and move Australia forward for everyone, and the best way to do this is to give people a voice.”

The recommendation of the working group with agreement of the government is to ask Australians to amend the Constitution to include:

*In recognition of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples as the First Peoples of Australia:*

- 1. there shall be a body, to be called the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Voice;*
- 2. The Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Voice may make representations to the Parliament and the Executive Government of the Commonwealth on matters relating to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples; and*
- 3. The Parliament shall, subject to this Constitution, have power to make laws with respect to matters relating to the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Voice, including its composition, functions, powers and procedures.*

By answering this question:

*A Proposed Law: to alter the Constitution to recognise the First Peoples of Australia by establishing an Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Voice*

*Do you approve this proposed alteration?*

**The answer needed from a majority of Australians, in a majority of states, is Yes.**

This is a simple proposition for Recognition and Consultation. The Allies for Uluru believe this is a good proposal that will bring First Nations Voices into the heart of our national dialogue and support the practical changes that we all hope to see.

Our organisations stand together with the many First Nations peoples on the path to a successful Referendum and beyond – we support **Yes**.

**For media inquiries contact:**

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**The Allies for Uluru Coalition:**

Fred Hollows Foundation

ANTAR

Oxfam Australia

ACOSS

Reconciliation Australia

Infoxchange

The Australian College of Nursing

Perinatal Wellbeing Centre

Adara Group

Greenpeace Australia Pacific

University of Divinity

Anglicare Australia

Simply Helping

Not-for-Profit & Charity Community Consultants (NFPCCC) First Nations & LGBTIQ+ Charity

Diverse Communities & Social Services (DCSS) First Nations & LGBTIQ+ Charity

ActionAid Australia

Tearfund Australia

Transparency International Australia

Our Community

Reconciliation Victoria

Buddhist Council of NSW

Edmund Rice Centre for Justice and Community Education

Adult Learning Australia

Financial Counselling Australia

Youth Off the Streets  
Australian Democracy Network  
Uniting Vic.Tas  
Australian Council for International Development (ACFID)  
Asylum Seeker Resource Centre (ASRC)  
UnitingCare Australia  
Australasian Centre for Corporate Responsibility  
Diversity Council Australia  
ACTCOSS  
Family Advocacy  
The Benevolent Society  
Beyond Blue  
International Women's Development Agency (IWDA)  
Human Rights Council of Australia (HRCA)  
Public Interest Advocacy Centre (PIAC)  
Caritas Australia  
St Vincent de Paul Society National Council of Australia  
Catholic Social Services Australia  
The Salvation Army Australia  
QCOSS  
Port Phillip Citizens for Reconciliation  
National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Catholic Council  
Reconciliation NSW  
Sydney Peace Foundation  
Australian Lawyers Alliance  
Brotherhood of St. Laurence