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Australian Government
Department of Home Affairs

Background Brief

For information

PDMS Number: MB25-001017

To: Minister for Multicultural Affairs

Subject: *A National Response to Islamophobia: A Strategic Framework for Inclusion, Safety and Prosperity*

Purpose

To provide you with an overview of issues and recommendations in the report, *A National Response to Islamophobia: A Strategic Framework for Inclusion, Safety and Prosperity*, authored by Mr Aftab Malik, Australia's Special Envoy to Combat Islamophobia.

Background

1. On 30 September 2024 the Australian government announced Mr Aftab Malik as Australia's Special Envoy to Combat Islamophobia. He was formally appointed on 14 October 2024.
2. The Special Envoy's focus is on all forms of Islamophobia - addressing and combating hate, abuse, prejudice and discrimination towards Muslims in Australia. The role also includes providing advice, promoting education and awareness, engaging relevant stakeholders to address anti-Muslim hate and anti-Muslim sentiment.

3.

s. 22(1)(a)(ii)

Key Issues

4. The Special Envoy listened to and engaged with over 100 individuals across Australia who attended consultations.
5. The report sets out 54 recommendations to address Islamophobia faced by Muslim Australians.
6. The report articulates the various negative impacts that Islamophobia has on the Muslim community and the broader Australia community, including:
 - creating social exclusion which damages belonging and trust in government
 - producing an "us" and "them" mentality, undermining Australia's core values of mutual respect, inclusion, fairness and compassion
 - encouraging people to react based on fear, hatred and mistrust, allowing people to then legitimise prejudice and dehumanisation
 - being a social cohesion issue and should not be relegated to just a Muslim issue.

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7. The recommendations are listed by responsible departments and specific recommendations for the Department of Home Affairs seek to strengthen funding, community monitoring and reporting, training and education; address foreign interference; and review character requirements. Specifically:
- Recommendation 7. Strengthen funding to **enable research** teams to gather evidence on effective interventions that combat Islamophobia in Australia, and to develop, evaluate and disseminate anti-Islamophobia programs.
 - Recommendation 8. Establish a funding program aimed at **enhancing the safety and security** of Muslim not-for-profit institutions (such as Islamic centres, schools, community facilities), particularly mosques, large and small. The grant should encapsulate protection, planning and capability, incident management and wellbeing and resilience.
 - Recommendation 9. Support the capacity building of existing **community monitoring and reporting** efforts that document the extent of Islamophobic hate crimes and hate incidents, as well as community-based support services for those affected by such crimes and incidents.
 - Recommendation 10. Work with the Australian Federal Police and state and territory police agencies to improve **data collection** on hate crimes, including those motivated by Islamophobia, to inform policy and resource allocation.
 - Recommendation 11. Working in partnerships with states, territories and local government, provide **grants** that specifically aim to **combat Islamophobia and strengthen social cohesion**. These community grants must be evaluated, leveraging the research capacity mentioned above.
 - Recommendation 12. Address the role of foreign actors and domestic affiliations in spreading Islamophobic content as part of broader **foreign influence** operations.
 - Recommendation 13. Establish a position of Liaison to Muslim communities within the **National Emergency Management Agency** to embed tailored programs for Muslim communities within universal disaster risk reduction, response and recovery services to minimise barriers to access and also reduce Islamophobia linked to specific emergency events.
 - Recommendation 14. Expand existing **bystander training** to include capacity-building for frontline practitioners, workers and teachers to recognise and respond to Islamophobic incidents.
 - Recommendation 15. Mandate compulsory **religious sensitivity training** for all Australian Federal Police officers, similar to domestic violence and family violence-related training.
 - Recommendation 16. Review existing provisions in the Migration Act regarding **character grounds** to make clear the Minister's ability to refuse visas for visitors promoting hate speech, including those with a history of promoting Islamophobic hatred.

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8. The report also includes recommendations aligned with your broader portfolio and charter letter responsibilities including, but not limited to, combatting racism, support for Muslim entrepreneurs and women's economic participation.
9. Mr Malik notes that for the recommendations to be effective they need to be approached as a national, whole of Government responsibility, with coordination across federal, state and territory governments.

Sensitivities

10. The Government has not yet responded to the recommendations of the report from the Special Envoy's Plan to Combat Antisemitism, Ms Jillian Segal AO, released on 10 July 2025.

Consultation

11. Nil.

Authorising Officer	Contact Officer
Meredith Byron Assistant Secretary Multicultural Policy and Engagement Phone: S. 47E(d) Date: 8 September 2025	s. 22(1)(a)(ii) Director Multicultural Policy and Research Phone: S. 47E(d)

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From: s. 22(1)(a)(ii)
To: [Ministerial Briefs](#)
Cc: s. 22(1)(a)(ii) [Sneha CHATTERJEE](#)
Subject: FW: MO tasking: due COB Monday 8 September 2025 - Aftab's report [SEC=OFFICIAL]
Date: Friday, 5 September 2025 3:29:37 PM
Attachments: [image002.png](#)
[image003.jpg](#)

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Thanks s. 22(1)(a)(ii)

Hi team

Could we please register this background brief as a priority as per Sneha's email below.

Hi Sneha!!!

Kind regards

s. 22(1)(a)(ii)

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From: s. 22(1)(a)(ii) <s. 22(1)(a)(ii)@HOMEAFFAIRS.GOV.AU>
Sent: Friday, 5 September 2025 3:21 PM
To: s. 22(1)(a)(ii) <s. 22(1)(a)(ii)@homeaffairs.gov.au>
Subject: FW: MO tasking: due COB Monday 8 September 2025 - Aftab's report [SEC=OFFICIAL]

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s. 22(1)(a)(ii)

Can you please assist?

Cheers s. 22(1)(a)(ii)

OFFICIAL

From: Sneha CHATTERJEE s. 22(1)(a)(ii) @homeaffairs.gov.au>
Sent: Friday, 5 September 2025 3:19 PM
To: DLO Aly s. 22(1)(a)(ii) @homeaffairs.gov.au>; FAS OMA s. 22(1)(a)(ii) @homeaffairs.gov.au>; s. 22(1)(a) <s. 22(1)(a)(ii) HOMEAFFAIRS.GOV.AU>; Meredith BYRON s. 22(1)(a)(ii) @homeaffairs.gov.au>
Cc: Heike PHILLIPS s. 22(1)(a)(ii) @homeaffairs.gov.au>; MCB Executive Support s. 22(1)(a)(ii) @homeaffairs.gov.au>; Malcolm MCALLISTER s. 22(1)(a)(ii) @homeaffairs.gov.au>; Special Envoy Support and Grants Programs s. 22(1)(a)(ii) @homeaffairs.gov.au>; MO Registration s. 22(1)(a)(ii) @homeaffairs.gov.au>
Subject: RE: MO tasking: due COB Monday 8 September 2025 - Aftab's report [SEC=OFFICIAL]

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Hi s. 22(1)(a)(ii)

Thanks. The team will prepare a background brief - @s. 22(1)(a)(ii) could your team please create a brief in PDMS and allocate to OMA.

@Meredith BYRON can Policy please prepare this brief.

Regards,

Sneha

Sneha Chatterjee

First Assistant Secretary

Office for Multicultural Affairs

Immigration Group | Department of Home Affairs

M: s. 22(1)(a)(ii)

E: s. 22(1)(a)(ii) @homeaffairs.gov.au

Office: s. 22(1)(a)(ii) @homeaffairs.gov.au



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From: DLO Aly s. 22(1)(a)(ii) @homeaffairs.gov.au>
Sent: Friday, 5 September 2025 12:11 PM
To: Sneha CHATTERJEE s. 22(1)(a)(ii) @homeaffairs.gov.au>; FAS OMA s. 22(1)(a)(ii) @homeaffairs.gov.au>
Cc: Heike PHILLIPS s. 22(1)(a)(ii) @homeaffairs.gov.au>; MCB Executive Support s. 22(1)(a)(ii) @homeaffairs.gov.au>; Malcolm MCALLISTER s. 22(1)(a)(ii) @homeaffairs.gov.au>; Special Envoy Support and Grants Programs s. 22(1)(a)(ii) @homeaffairs.gov.au>

s. 22(1)(a)(ii) homeaffairs.gov.au>; MO Registration s. 22(1)(a)(ii) @homeaffairs.gov.au>;
s. 22(1)(a)(ii) HOMEAFFAIRS.GOV.AU>; DLO Aly s. 22(1)(a)(ii) @homeaffairs.gov.au>
Subject: MO tasking: due COB Monday 8 September 2025 - Aftab's report [SEC=OFFICIAL]

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Hi Sneha,

Adviser s. 22(1)(a)(ii) has requested talking points [including background] and draft MR be prepared for the above mentioned event.

Grateful if these could be provided to the office by COB Monday 8 September 2025.

Thanks

Kind regards

s. 22(1)(a)(ii)
Departmental Liaison Officer
Office of the Hon Dr Anne Aly MP
Minister for Small Business
Minister for International Development
Minister for Multicultural Affairs

M: s. 22(1)(a)(ii)
E: s. 22(1)(a)(ii) @homeaffairs.gov.au

Acknowledgement of Country Signature Block Graphic 2022



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From: [DLO.Burke](#)
To: [Ministerial Briefs](#)
Cc: [DLO.Burke](#); [MO Registration](#); s. 22(1)(a)(ii)
Subject: Meeting Brief Request - Minister Burke meeting with Special Envoy Jillian Segal AO - Friday, 3 October [SEC=OFFICIAL]
Date: Friday, 26 September 2025 10:39:30 AM

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Dear All

Please see below an meeting brief for tasking.

Event Brief Request	MINISTER BURKE
Event Name:	Minister Burke meeting with Special Envoy Jillian Segal AO
Date and time of event:	Friday 3 October, 9:30am – 10:00am (pre-brief at 9:25am with the Minister and Deputy Chief of Staff)
Location:	s. 47E(d)
Purpose/context:	Meeting request via the Department
Event contact person:	N/A
Advisor Responsible:	s. 22(1)(a)(ii) Deputy Chief of Staff
MO attendees:	the Hon Tony Burke MP, Minister for Home Affairs, Minister for Cyber Security, Minister for Immigration and Citizenship
Other known attendees:	Nil
Agenda/invite attached:	No
Date due to MO:	COB Tuesday, 30th September
Please include the following in the brief:	- Any background on the organisation - Any Sensitivities - Any Talking Points (14 point font)
Additional Comments	n/a

Kind regards,

s. 22(1)(a)(ii)
 Departmental Liaison Officer

Office of the Hon Tony Burke MP
 Minister for Home Affairs | Minister for Cyber Security
 Minister for Immigration and Citizenship
 E: s. 22(1)(a)(ii) @homeaffairs.gov.au
 M: s. 22(1)(a)(ii)

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Australian Government
Department of Home Affairs

MEETING BRIEF

MINISTER: Tony Burke

ADVISER: S. 22(1)(a)(ii)

Event Brief - Minister Burke meeting with Special Envoy Jillian Segal AO, Friday 3 October, 9:30am – 10:00am, Parliament House Canberra

Meeting commencement time: 9:30am

Date and Location: Friday, 3 October 2025, via Teams

Person

You are meeting Australia's Special Envoy to Combat Antisemitism, Ms Jillian Segal AO.

Has the Minister met with this person/organisation in the past?

Yes, multiple times. You launched the Special Envoy's Plan to Combat Antisemitism (the Plan) with the Prime Minister and Ms Segal AO on 10 July 2025.

Purpose of Meeting

- It is anticipated that Ms Segal AO will raise the Plan, including timing, scope and key elements of a proposed Government response.
- Ms Segal AO may raise her forthcoming appearance at Senate Estimates on Wednesday, 10 October 2025.

What are the Government's objectives?

- This meeting is an opportunity to provide a high-level overview of the Government's priorities and to demonstrate commitment to addressing recommendations raised in the Plan.

- s. 33(a)(i)

Key Messages

- Reference** *Yom Kippur* (Day of Atonement) which was from evening of 1 to evening 2 October, recognising it is the holiest day in the Jewish calendar, a day of reflection, atonement and community.
- Acknowledge** Ms Segal AO's efforts over the past year as Special Envoy and release of her Plan that puts forward recommendations for Government to consider.
- Emphasise** the Government values the work being done to ensure the safety, wellbeing and prosperity of the Jewish community in Australia.
- Note** that the Government will continue to carefully consider the recommendations alongside broader policy considerations.
 - The Department of Home Affairs (the Department) is currently tracking government actions relevant to the Plan's recommendations.

Background

- On 10 July 2025, the Ms Segal AO launched the Plan with the Prime Minister and you.
- The Plan puts forward 49 recommendations targeted at a range of institutions and sectors across society, including government, universities, schools, arts and culture, media organisations and digital platforms.

- s. 33(a)(i)

- Recommendations directly relevant to the Department include law reform (3.2); migration settings to screen visa applicants and holders for anti-Semitic views, affiliations or conduct (3.9); and multicultural and interfaith engagement (3.10).

Migration Act

- The Migration Act (Section 501(6)(d)) already provides grounds for the cancellation or refusal of a non-citizen's visa where it is considered that they may vilify or incite discord in the Australian community, including behaviour that involves anti-Semitic conduct.
- Additionally, the General Visa Cancellation powers (at section 116(1)(e)) allow for the cancellation of temporary visa holders who may be considered to be a risk to the Good Order of the Australian community.
- The Department actively screens visa applications and visa holders where a person is considered as representing a risk of vilifying or inciting discord, or otherwise representing a danger to the Australian community.
- If a visa applicant is assessed as likely to engage in activities that fall within the scope of the character requirements of the *Migration Act 1958*, their visa application may be refused.
 - The Department is considering improvements to visa and citizenship training packages, specifically to include assessing elements of the character test. The updated training modules are expected to include detailed information on whether an applicant has incited, or incites or promotes hatred against a group of individual distinguished by race, sex, religion, nationality, or national or ethnic origin. The improvements will be broader than antisemitism, to encompass vilifying behaviour against any group.

National Hate Crimes

- Responsibility for the development of a National Hate Crimes and Incidents Database transferred to the Department under the 13 May 2025 Administrative Arrangements Order. The Department is working with all jurisdictions, civil society organisations and community representatives on development of the database as a priority.

List of Attendees

- Ms Jillian Segal AO

Clearance

Clearance officer: Malcolm McAllister Phone: S. 47E(d) Date: 30 September 2025	Contact officer: S. 22(1)(a)(ii) Division: Office for Multicultural Affairs Branch: Special Envoy Support and Grants Program Mobile Phone: S. 47E(d)
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Attachments:

A: Biography (including photo)

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Attachment A: Biography



Name	Jillian Segal AO
Title	Special Envoy to Combat Antisemitism
Organisation	Office for the Special Envoy to Combat Antisemitism (ASECA)

Brief Work History:

Jillian Segal AO is a highly experienced leader with a distinguished career in both government and the private sector. She has served as Chair of the Australia Israel Chamber of Commerce and a board member of the Grattan Institute. Since 2022, she has been a community representative on the Council for the Order of Australia, and since 2008, Chairman of the General Sir John Monash Foundation. Previously, she was President of the Executive Council of Australian Jewry (2019–2022), a member of the Australian War Memorial Council (2014–2017), and served on the Australian Securities Exchange Board (2003–2015). Earlier in her career, she was ASIC Commissioner and Deputy Chair (1992–1997). Jillian is widely recognised for her longstanding advocacy for the NSW Jewish community and her reputation for independence in senior management and board roles.

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From: [DLO.Burke](#)
To: [Ministerial Briefs](#)
Cc: [DLO.Burke](#); [Special Envoy Support and Grants Programs](#); [Malcolm MCALLISTER](#); [MO Registration](#)
Subject: Urgent meeting brief tasking - Minister Burke meeting with Jillian Segal, Special Envoy to Combat Antisemitism [SEC=OFFICIAL]
Date: Friday, 12 December 2025 3:34:46 PM

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Hi team,

Grateful for your urgent tasking of the below meeting brief request. I believe Special Envoy Support and Grants Programs will be the lead area.

Meeting Brief Request	MINISTER Burke
Meeting Name/Subject:	Minister Burke meeting with Jillian Segal, Special Envoy to Combat Antisemitism
Date and time of event:	Tuesday 16 December, 3:30pm – 4:00pm (pre-brief w/Minister and Advisor at 3:20pm)
Location:	Minister to be located at the CPO Sydney. Meeting to occur via Teams
Purpose/context:	Special Envoy requested catch up meeting - brief to cover likely issues to be raised
Advisor Responsible:	s. 22(1)(a)(ii)
MO attendees:	Minister Burke, DCoS s. 22(1)(a)(ii)
Departmental attendees:	TBC
Other known attendees:	Nil
Agenda/invite attached:	No
Lead area:	Special Envoy Support and Grants Programs
Time and Date due to MO:	COB Monday, 15 December 2025
Please include the following in the brief:	Special Envoy requested catch up meeting - brief to cover likely issues to be raised

Kind regards,

s. 22(1)(a)(ii)
Departmental Liaison Officer

Office of the Hon Tony Burke MP
Minister for Home Affairs | Minister for Cyber Security
Minister for Immigration and Citizenship

E: s. 22(1)(a)(ii) [@homeaffairs.gov.au](mailto:homeaffairs.gov.au)
M: s. 47E(d)

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Australian Government
Department of Home Affairs

MEETING BRIEF

MINISTER: Tony Burke

ADVISER: S. 22(1)(a)(ii)

Minister Burke meeting with Jillian Segal, Special Envoy to Combat Antisemitism

Meeting commencement time: 3:30pm – 4pm AEDT

Date and Location: Tuesday 16 December via Microsoft Teams

Person

You are meeting Australia's Special Envoy to Combat Antisemitism, Ms Jillian Segal AO.

Has the Minister met with this person/organisation in the past?

Yes, multiple times. You launched the Special Envoy's Plan to Combat Antisemitism (the Plan) with the Prime Minister and Ms Segal AO on 10 July 2025.

Purpose of Meeting

- It is anticipated that Ms Segal AO will raise the Plan and the Government's response after the Bondi Terrorist Attack.

What are the Government's objectives?

- This meeting is an opportunity to provide a high-level overview of the Government's priorities and to demonstrate commitment to addressing recommendations raised in the Plan.

Background

Government Response

- The government will be giving careful consideration to the reports from the Special Envoy to Combat Antisemitism and the Special Envoy to Combat Islamophobia.
- The timing and nature of the government response to both sets of recommendations is a matter for government.
- While measurable outcomes may take time to emerge, the Department of Home Affairs is monitoring developments through inter-departmental engagement.

List of Attendees

- Ms Jillian Segal AO
- S. 22(1)(a)(ii), A/g Assistant Secretary, Multicultural and Policy Engagement Branch, Office for Multicultural Affairs

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Clearance

Clearance officer: Malcolm McAllister Phone: s. 47E(d) Date: 15 December 2025	Contact officer: s. 22(1)(a)(ii) Division: Office for Multicultural Affairs Branch: Special Envoy Support and Grants Program Mobile Phone: s. 47E(d)
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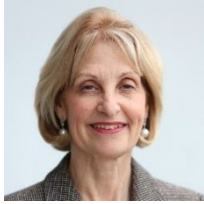
Attachments:

A: Biography (including photo)

B: Special Envoy to Combat Antisemitism Media Release Bondi Terrorist Attack

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under the *Freedom of Information Act 1982*

Attachment A: Biography



Name	Jillian Segal AO
Title	Special Envoy to Combat Antisemitism
Organisation	Office for the Special Envoy to Combat Antisemitism (ASECA)

Brief Work History

Jillian Segal AO is a highly experienced leader with a distinguished career in both government and the private sector. She has served as Chair of the Australia Israel Chamber of Commerce and a board member of the Grattan Institute. Since 2022, she has been a community representative on the Council for the Order of Australia, and since 2008, Chairman of the General Sir John Monash Foundation. Previously, she was President of the Executive Council of Australian Jewry (2019–2022), a member of the Australian War Memorial Council (2014–2017) and served on the Australian Securities Exchange Board (2003–2015). Earlier in her career, she was ASIC Commissioner and Deputy Chair (1992–1997). Jillian is widely recognised for her longstanding advocacy for the NSW Jewish community and her reputation for independence in senior management and board roles.

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Media Release

Statement on the Bondi Terrorist Attack

14 December 2025

Tonight, marks the worst fear of the Australian Jewish community becoming reality.

A peaceful Chanukah gathering at Bondi Beach was attacked. Images emerging tonight are chilling and echo the horrors Australians hoped they would never see here.

This did not come without warning. In Australia, it began on 9 October 2023 at the Sydney Opera House. We then watched a march across the Sydney Harbour Bridge waving terrorist flags and glorifying extremist leaders. Now death has reached Bondi Beach. These are Australian icons. Targeting them is deliberate. This is not random. It is an attack on Australia.

My gratitude is with those first responders today who have had to do a job no-one should have to.

To ordinary Australians, this moment demands clarity. What once seemed distant or uncomfortable can no longer be ignored. Taunts from the Opera House steps, synagogues set alight and now massacres at a celebration form a clear pattern.

This is not the Australia we know and it cannot be the Australia we accept.

Australia responded decisively after Port Arthur in 1996. This moment requires the same action. Words are no longer enough.

An attack on a peaceful Jewish celebration is an attack on our national character and our way of life. Australia must defend both.

As Australian Jews light our Chanukah candles tonight, we do so with the heaviest of hearts.

Chag Sameach.

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From: s. 22(1)(a)(ii)
To: [Multicultural Policy and Engagement](#); s. 22(1)(a)(ii)
Cc: [Priority Response team](#)
Subject: RE: New FOI Request 11C(1)(a) Due by Wednesday 4 February 2026 [SEC=OFFICIAL:Sensitive, ACCESS=Personal-Privacy] [SEC=PROTECTED, CAVEAT=SH:CABINET]
Date: Wednesday, 4 February 2026 11:44:44 AM
Attachments: s. 47C(1)
[image003.png](#)
[image004.png](#)
[image005.jpg](#)

~~PROTECTED//CABINET~~

Good morning

Please find attached three emails held by the Priority Response Team that are relevant to the FOI request below. It took approximately two hours of work to search through emails and TRIM to meet this request.

Please note that the third attached email

s. 47C(1)

s. 22(1)(a)(ii) – just CCing you as both Special Envoy Annual Reports are included in the third email as well.

s. 22(1)(a)(ii)

s. 22(1)(a)(ii)

Director

Priority Response Team

Multicultural Policy & Engagement Branch

Office for Multicultural Affairs

Email: s. 22(1)(a)(ii) [homeaffairs.gov.au](mailto:s.22(1)(a)(ii)@homeaffairs.gov.au)

Ph: s. 22(1)(a)(ii)



We acknowledge the Traditional Custodians of Country throughout Australia, and their continuing connection to land, waters and community. We pay our respects to all First Nations peoples, their cultures and to their Elders, past and present.

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~~PROTECTED//CABINET~~

From: Multicultural Policy and Engagement [s. 22\(1\)\(a\)\(ii\)@homeaffairs.gov.au](mailto:s.22(1)(a)(ii)@homeaffairs.gov.au)
Sent: Monday, 2 February 2026 11:58 AM
To: [s. 22\(1\)\(a\)\(ii\)](mailto:s.22(1)(a)(ii)@homeaffairs.gov.au) <[s. 22\(1\)\(a\)\(ii\)@homeaffairs.gov.au](mailto:s.22(1)(a)(ii)@homeaffairs.gov.au)>
Cc: Priority Response team [s. 22\(1\)\(a\)\(ii\)@homeaffairs.gov.au](mailto:s.22(1)(a)(ii)@homeaffairs.gov.au); Multicultural Policy [s. 22\(1\)\(a\)\(ii\)@homeaffairs.gov.au](mailto:s.22(1)(a)(ii)@homeaffairs.gov.au); Multicultural Policy and Engagement [s. 22\(1\)\(a\)\(ii\)@homeaffairs.gov.au](mailto:s.22(1)(a)(ii)@homeaffairs.gov.au)
Subject: FW: New FOI Request [11C\(1\)\(a\)](#) - Due by Wednesday 4 February 2026 [SEC=OFFICIAL:Sensitive, ACCESS=Personal-Privacy] [SEC=OFFICIAL:Sensitive]

~~OFFICIAL: Sensitive~~

Hi [s. 22\(1\)\(a\)\(ii\)](mailto:s.22(1)(a)(ii)@homeaffairs.gov.au)

The below FOI request refers. Grateful if you could please send [s. 22\(1\)](#) any input by 12 noon, this Wednesday 4 February.

Kind regards,

[s. 22\(1\)\(a\)\(ii\)](#)
 Branch Coordinator
 Multicultural Policy and Engagement Branch
 Office for Multicultural Affairs
 Immigration Group | Department of Home Affairs

From: FAS OMA [s. 22\(1\)\(a\)\(ii\)@homeaffairs.gov.au](mailto:s.22(1)(a)(ii)@homeaffairs.gov.au)
Sent: Wednesday, 28 January 2026 2:05 PM
To: Priority Response team [s. 22\(1\)\(a\)\(ii\)@homeaffairs.gov.au](mailto:s.22(1)(a)(ii)@homeaffairs.gov.au); Multicultural Policy [s. 22\(1\)\(a\)\(ii\)@homeaffairs.gov.au](mailto:s.22(1)(a)(ii)@homeaffairs.gov.au); Special Envoy Support and Grants Programs [s. 22\(1\)\(a\)\(ii\)@homeaffairs.gov.au](mailto:s.22(1)(a)(ii)@homeaffairs.gov.au)
Cc: [s. 22\(1\)\(a\)\(ii\)](mailto:s.22(1)(a)(ii)@homeaffairs.gov.au) [s. 22\(1\)\(a\)\(ii\)@homeaffairs.gov.au](mailto:s.22(1)(a)(ii)@homeaffairs.gov.au); [s. 22\(1\)\(a\)\(ii\)](mailto:s.22(1)(a)(ii)@homeaffairs.gov.au)

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s. 22(1)(a)(ii) @homeaffairs.gov.au>; Special Envoy Support and Grants Programs

s. 22(1)(a)(ii) @homeaffairs.gov.au>; Multicultural Policy and Engagement

s. 22(1)(a)(ii) @homeaffairs.gov.au>

Subject: FW: New FOI Request 11C(1)(a) - Due by
Wednesday 4 February 2026 [SEC=OFFICIAL:Sensitive, ACCESS=Personal-Privacy]

~~OFFICIAL: Sensitive~~
~~Personal-Privacy~~

Hi Teams,

We were copied into this request.

Can you please review and consider if we have anything to submit.

Regards,

s. 22(1)(a)(ii)

Executive Officer to Sneha Chatterjee

First Assistant Secretary

Office for Multicultural Affairs

Immigration Group | Department of Home Affairs

T: s. 22(1)(a)(ii)

M: s. 22(1)(a)(ii)

E: s. 22(1)(a)(ii) @homeaffairs.gov.au

Office: s. 22(1)(a)(ii) @homeaffairs.gov.au



We acknowledge the Traditional Custodians of Country throughout Australia, and their continuing connection to land, waters and community. We pay our respects to all First Nations peoples, their cultures and to their Elders, past and present.

~~Personal-Privacy~~
~~OFFICIAL: Sensitive~~

From: FOI <foi@homeaffairs.gov.au>

Sent: Wednesday, 28 January 2026 2:01 PM

To: CJD Coord s. 22(1)(a)(ii) @homeaffairs.gov.au>

Cc: FAS OMAS s. 22(1)(a)(ii) @homeaffairs.gov.au>

Subject: New FOI Request 11C(1)(a) Due by

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Wednesday 4 February 2026 [SEC=OFFICIAL:Sensitive, ACCESS=Personal-Privacy]

~~OFFICIAL: Sensitive~~
~~Personal-Privacy~~

Our reference:

11C(1)(a)

Good afternoon

Criminal Justice Division

Request for access to documents - *Freedom of Information Act 1982* (FOI Act)

On 13 January 2026, the Department received an FOI request from 11C(1)(a)

The applicant is seeking access to:

s. 47E(d)

11C(1)(a)

Your business area has been identified as potentially holding documents that would be relevant to this request.

Action required:

- Provide copies of any relevant documents, preferably via TRIM link, to the FOI Section for assessment.
- If documents are available on LEGEND or are available publically please provide web links.
- Keep a record of and provide the time spent to search for, retrieve or produce documents using the FOI Search and Retrieval Checklist at: ADD2021/6920023 or by

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responding to this email.

- Nominate a decision maker (SES Band 1 or above) from your business area for this request.
- Advise the FOI Section if you are aware of other business areas that may have documents within the scope of this request.

Practical Refusal Reasons:

- If the work involved in processing this request would exceed 40 hours, advise us as soon as possible.
- Information regarding the number of documents falling within the scope of the request will assist us to assess whether a practical refusal reason exists.

No relevant documents:

- Advise as soon as possible if no relevant documents exist. The FOI Search and Retrieval Checklist at: ADD2021/6920023 provides a useful framework for recording searches undertaken.

Timeframes:

- In order to charge the applicant, we must comply with statutory timeframes. It is important that you provide the time spent on search and retrieval and the documents falling in scope of the request to FOI Section by the due date.
- Respond to foi@homeaffairs.gov.au by **COB Wednesday 4 February 2026**.
- If there are any problems in meeting the due date, advise us **as soon as possible**.

Additional resources

- The FOI Search and Retrieval Checklist can be found at: ADD2021/6920023
- The Processing non-personal Freedom of Information requests Procedural Instruction can be found at: ADD2021/2395378
- The FOI Guidelines published by the Information Commissioner can be found: <https://www.oaic.gov.au/freedom-of-information/foi-guidelines/>

Next steps

- The FOI Section will assess any relevant documents.
- No information will be released without further consultation.

Thank you for your assistance with processing this request.

Kind regards,

s. 22(1)(a)(ii)

Authorised FOI Officer, Freedom of Information
Position Number 60118553
Privacy, FOI and Records Management Branch
Legal Group
Department of Home Affairs
E: foi@homeaffairs.gov.au

~~Personal-Privacy~~
~~OFFICIAL: Sensitive~~

From: FAS OMA ~~s. 22(1)(a)(ii)~~ <foi@homeaffairs.gov.au>
Sent: Wednesday, 28 January 2026 9:31 AM
To: FOI <foi@homeaffairs.gov.au>
Subject: FW: New FOI Request ~~11C(1)(a)~~ Due by
Friday 30 January 2026 [SEC=OFFICIAL:Sensitive, ACCESS=Personal-Privacy]

~~OFFICIAL: Sensitive~~
~~Personal-Privacy~~

Hi Team,

Going forward, can I please be copied in to ALL FOI requests going to my division please.

Regards,

~~s. 22(1)(a)(ii)~~

Executive Officer to Sneha Chatterjee
First Assistant Secretary
Office for Multicultural Affairs
Immigration Group | Department of Home Affairs

T: ~~s. 22(1)(a)(ii)~~

M: ~~s. 22(1)(a)(ii)~~

E: ~~s. 22(1)(a)(ii)~~ <foi@homeaffairs.gov.au>

Office: ~~s. 22(1)(a)(ii)~~ <foi@homeaffairs.gov.au>



We acknowledge the Traditional Custodians of Country throughout Australia, and their continuing connection to land, waters and community. We pay our respects to all First Nations peoples, their cultures and to their Elders, past and present.

~~Personal-Privacy~~
~~OFFICIAL: Sensitive~~

From: OSC.Exec s. 22(1)(a)(ii)@homeaffairs.gov.au>
Sent: Wednesday, 28 January 2026 10:27 AM
To: FOI <foi@homeaffairs.gov.au>; CJD Coord s. 22(1)(a)(ii)@homeaffairs.gov.au>
Cc: FAS OMA s. 22(1)(a)(ii)@homeaffairs.gov.au>; OSC.Exec s. 22(1)(a)(ii)@homeaffairs.gov.au>
Subject: FW: New FOI Request 11C(1)(a) - Due by Friday 30 January 2026 [SEC=OFFICIAL:Sensitive, ACCESS=Personal-Privacy]

**OFFICIAL: Sensitive
Personal-Privacy**

Hi FOI and CJD teams

I am currently conducting a search and retrieval for this request, but I suggest we also consult the Criminal Justice Division, noting the grants program that they administer.

Also cc'ing in FAS OMA in case they haven't received a copy of this from their grants team.

Kind regards

s. 22(1)(a)(ii)

s. 22(1)(a)(ii)

Executive Officer to Mark Groote

First Assistant Secretary | Office for Social Cohesion

Department of Home Affairs

M: s. 22(1)(a)(ii)

E: s. 22(1)(a)(ii)@homeaffairs.gov.au (preferred)

E: s. 22(1)(a)(ii)@homeaffairs.gov.au (personal/sensitive)



Personal-Privacy
~~OFFICIAL: Sensitive~~

From: FOI <foi@homeaffairs.gov.au>
Sent: Friday, 23 January 2026 1:44 PM
To: OSC.Exec s. 22(1)(a)(ii) [s. 22\(1\)\(a\)\(ii\)@homeaffairs.gov.au](mailto:s.22(1)(a)(ii)@homeaffairs.gov.au); Special Envoy Support and Grants Programs s. 22(1)(a)(ii) [s. 22\(1\)\(a\)\(ii\)@homeaffairs.gov.au](mailto:s.22(1)(a)(ii)@homeaffairs.gov.au)>
Cc: Special Envoy Support and Grants Programs s. 22(1)(a)(ii) [s. 22\(1\)\(a\)\(ii\)@homeaffairs.gov.au](mailto:s.22(1)(a)(ii)@homeaffairs.gov.au)>
Subject: New FOI Request 11C(1)(a) Due by Friday 30 January 2026 [SEC=OFFICIAL:Sensitive, ACCESS=Personal-Privacy]

~~OFFICIAL: Sensitive~~
Personal-Privacy

Our reference:

11C(1)(a)

Good afternoon

Head Office for Social Cohesion
Special Envoy Support and Grants Programs

Request for access to documents - *Freedom of Information Act 1982* (FOI Act)

On 13 January 2026, the Department received an FOI request from 11C(1)(a)

The applicant is seeking access to:

s. 47E(d)

11C(1)(a)

Released by Department of Home Affairs
under the *Freedom of Information Act 1982*

Release would contribute to informed public discussion about the management of serious risks, and would maintain public confidence.

Your business area has been identified as potentially holding documents that would be relevant to this request.

Action required:

- Provide copies of any relevant documents, preferably via TRIM link, to the FOI Section for assessment.
- If documents are available on LEGEND or are available publically please provide web links.
- Keep a record of and provide the time spent to search for, retrieve or produce documents using the FOI Search and Retrieval Checklist at: ADD2021/6920023 or by responding to this email.
- Nominate a decision maker (SES Band 1 or above) from your business area for this request.
- Advise the FOI Section if you are aware of other business areas that may have documents within the scope of this request.

Practical Refusal Reasons:

- If the work involved in processing this request would exceed 40 hours, advise us as soon as possible.
- Information regarding the number of documents falling within the scope of the request will assist us to assess whether a practical refusal reason exists.

No relevant documents:

- Advise as soon as possible if no relevant documents exist. The FOI Search and Retrieval Checklist at: ADD2021/6920023 provides a useful framework for recording searches undertaken.

Timeframes:

- In order to charge the applicant, we must comply with statutory timeframes. It is important that you provide the time spent on search and retrieval and the documents falling in scope of the request to FOI Section by the due date.
- Respond to foi@homeaffairs.gov.au by **COB Friday 30 January 2026**.
- If there are any problems in meeting the due date, advise us **as soon as possible**.

Additional resources

- The FOI Search and Retrieval Checklist can be found at: ADD2021/6920023
- The Processing non-personal Freedom of Information requests Procedural Instruction can be found at: ADD2021/2395378
- The FOI Guidelines published by the Information Commissioner can be found: <https://www.oaic.gov.au/freedom-of-information/foi-guidelines/>

Next steps

- The FOI Section will assess any relevant documents.
No information will be released without further consultation.

Thank you for your assistance with processing this request.

Kind regards,

s. 22(1)(a)(ii)

Authorised FOI Officer, Freedom of Information
Position Number 60118553
Privacy, FOI and Records Management Branch
Legal Group
Department of Home Affairs
E: foi@homeaffairs.gov.au

~~Personal-Privacy~~
~~OFFICIAL: Sensitive~~

~~OFFICIAL: Sensitive~~

From: s. 22(1)(a)(ii)
To: s. 22(1)(a)(ii)
Subject: s. 47C(1) [SEC=OFFICIAL:Sensitive]
Date: Monday, 2 February 2026 4:36:40 PM
Attachments:

s. 47C(1)

~~OFFICIAL: Sensitive~~

~~OFFICIAL: Sensitive~~

From: s. 22(1)(a)(ii)
Sent: Wednesday, 12 November 2025 7:12 PM
To: s. 22(1)(a)(ii) <s. 22(1)(a)(ii)@homeaffairs.gov.au>
Cc: Sneha CHATTERJEE s. 22(1)(a)(ii)@homeaffairs.gov.au>; Clare SHARP s. 22(1)(a)(ii)@HOMEAFFAIRS.GOV.AU>; Michael WILLARD s. 22(1)(a)(ii)@homeaffairs.gov.au>; MO Registration s. 22(1)(a)(ii)@homeaffairs.gov.au>; Alice LING s. 22(1)(a)(ii)@HOMEAFFAIRS.GOV.AU>
Subject: s. 47C(1) [SEC=OFFICIAL:Sensitive]

~~OFFICIAL: Sensitive~~

Hi s. 22(1)(a)(ii)

As requested, please find attached the following tables:

s. 47C(1)

s. 47C(1)

Please note that the attached documents are working drafts.

Thanks

s. 22

s. 22(1)(a)(ii)

A/g Assistant Secretary

Multicultural Policy and Engagement Branch

Office for Multicultural Affairs

Immigration Group

Department of Home Affairs

M: s. 22(1)(a)(ii)

E: s. 22(1)(a)(ii) [@homeaffairs.gov.au](mailto:s.22(1)(a)(ii)@homeaffairs.gov.au)



*We acknowledge the Traditional Custodians of Country throughout Australia,
and their continuing connection to land, waters and community.*

*We pay our respects to all First Nations peoples,
their cultures and to their Elders, past and present.*

OFFICIAL: Sensitive

Released by Department of Home Affairs
under the Freedom of Information Act 1982

From: s. 22(1)(a)(ii)
To: s. 22(1)(a)(ii)
Subject: s. 47C(1) [SEC=OFFICIAL:Sensitive]
Date: Monday, 1 December 2025 11:55:54 AM
Attachments: s. 47C(1)
[image001.png](#)

OFFICIAL: Sensitive

OFFICIAL: Sensitive

From: s. 22(1)(a)(ii)
Sent: Thursday, 27 November 2025 12:50 PM
To: s. 22(1)(a)(ii) <s. 22(1)(a)(ii)@homeaffairs.gov.au>
Cc: Sneha CHATTERJEE s. 22(1)(a)(ii)@HOMEAFFAIRS.GOV.AU> s. 22(1)(a)(ii)
s. 22(1)(a)(ii)@HOMEAFFAIRS.GOV.AU>
Subject: s. 47C(1) [SEC=OFFICIAL:Sensitive]

OFFICIAL: Sensitive

Hi s. 22(1)(a)(ii)

s. 47C(1)

Thanks

s. 22

s. 22(1)(a)(ii)

A/g Assistant Secretary
Multicultural Policy and Engagement Branch
Office for Multicultural Affairs
Immigration Group
Department of Home Affairs
M: s. 22(1)(a)(ii)
E: s. 22(1)(a)(ii)@homeaffairs.gov.au



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and their continuing connection to land, waters and community.
We pay our respects to all First Nations peoples,
their cultures and to their Elders, past and present.

Released by Department of Home Affairs
under the Freedom of Information Act 1982

From: [Sneha CHATTERJEE](#)
To: s. 22(1)(a)(ii) s. 22(1)(a)(ii) ([DFAT](#))
Cc: [DLO.Burke](#); [DLO Aly](#); [MO Registration](#); [Clare SHARP](#); [Michael WILLARD](#); [Head of Immigration Office](#); [DS Immigration Programs Group](#); s. 22(1)(a)(ii) s. 22(1)(a)(ii)
Subject: s. 47C(1) [SEC=PROTECTED]
Date: Friday, 21 November 2025 5:01:36 PM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)

s. 47C(1)

PROTECTED

Hi s. 22(1)(a)(ii)

As discussed please find attached a number of documents for your consideration:

s. 47C(1)

Happy to discuss further.

Regards,

Sneha

Sneha Chatterjee

First Assistant Secretary

Office for Multicultural Affairs

Immigration Group | Department of Home Affairs

M: s. 22(1)(a)(ii)

E: s. 22(1)(a)(ii) [@homeaffairs.gov.au](mailto:s.22(1)(a)(ii)@homeaffairs.gov.au)

Office: s. 22(1)(a)(ii) [@homeaffairs.gov.au](mailto:s.22(1)(a)(ii)@homeaffairs.gov.au)



PROTECTED

16 October 2025

The Honourable Anthony Albanese MP
Prime Minister of Australia
Parliament House
Canberra ACT 2600
Australia

Dear Prime Minister

It has been just over a year since I was appointed as Australia's first Special Envoy to Combat Antisemitism in July 2024 and, as requested, I attach my report on the activities of the first year. From the outset I have approached this role with a clear sense of purpose, reinforced by your words earlier this year: antisemitism is antithetical to Australian values and it must be pushed back to the margins of society. Antisemitism is not just a threat to one community. It is an attack on the principles that bind us together — respect, fairness, freedom of belief. When hatred like this is left unchecked, it corrodes the trust that holds our society together. What we have seen since October 7 2023 has shocked many Australians, but it has also revealed deeper truths – that Jew-hatred has lived in the shadows waiting for its moment to explode, and that our national cohesion cannot be taken for granted. It must not be left to the Jewish community to defend alone. This is a challenge for all of us.

It has become abundantly clear that large swathes of the Australian Jewish community are traumatised by the events of the past 2 years, feel deeply isolated and in many cases fearful for their safety and future in this wonderful country. Far from asking for 'special treatment', Australia's Jews simply want to feel safe, included and welcome in their home.

The Office of the Special Envoy was established to advise government and to lead a national response to this challenge. That work, culminating the Special Envoy's Plan, has involved advice on a range of matters including a better understanding of the nature of antisemitism, law reform, education in schools and new processes and governance at universities.

This work will make a difference only with strong backing at the highest levels. Thank you for your personal support to date. However, one small office cannot succeed by itself. It requires resolve across government, civil society and business. It requires listening to those who have been harmed and working with them to rebuild trust and inclusion.

Released by Department of Home Affairs
under the Freedom of Information Act 1982

One year in, there is reasonable momentum and I am proud of the efforts so far. But the work must accelerate and, as the Plan notes, ongoing Government support and assistance across all areas will be required to assist in both the speed and impact of initiatives.

We must act with clarity, purpose and shared commitment to ensure every Australian can live safely, openly and with dignity.

Yours sincerely,

S. 47F(1)

Jillian Segal AO
Special Envoy to Combat Antisemitism

Cc: Hon Dr Anne Aly MP, Minister for Multicultural Affairs

Establishing the Office

The Office of the Special Envoy (the Office) was formally established in mid-2024, with a mandate to lead a coordinated national response to antisemitism. Early efforts focused on foundational priorities: logistics, building a capable team, establishing work streams and setting a clear strategic vision.

The team was assembled (with the assistance of the Department of Home Affairs) to reflect both expertise and diversity, drawing on experience in education, law, policy, communications and community and corporate engagement. Staff are from both Jewish and non-Jewish backgrounds and are located in Sydney and Melbourne in order to facilitate wider consultation.

Early Work

Early tasks included:

1. Representing Australia at the 30th Anniversary of the bombing of the community centre in Buenos Aires (AMIA), alongside counterpart national Envoys, for the signing of the Global Guidelines to Combat Antisemitism; and
2. Making a submission to the Senate Committee inquiry regarding a potential Royal Commission into antisemitism at universities. In order to inform this submission I took confidential testimony from 65 Jewish students and staff, most of whom had suffered egregious acts of antisemitism.

These interviews and subsequent recommendations of the Senate Committee as well as later hearings and recommendations from the Parliamentary Joint Committee on Human Rights regarding universities, grounded the initial work of the Envoy regarding universities.

Consultations

In the early months, I spent a considerable amount of time consulting with a large number of Jewish communal organisations and individuals to understand what was happening on the ground, and where the antisemitism being experienced was originating from, in order to inform measures that could be recommended to counter it.

This involved communal meetings in Sydney, Melbourne and Perth and meetings with state and federal government representatives as well as key regulators and personnel.

Early on it became clear that universities, schools, social media and the arts, as well as law reform, should be key areas of focus.

Strategic Engagement Overview

From its inception, I have taken a whole-of-society approach to addressing antisemitism. While government has a central role, effective action requires buy-in from the broader

community itself, particularly the school and higher education sectors, media, business, community and faith sectors.

In its first year, the Office has built relationships and partnerships with universities, media outlets, professional associations and community groups to identify issues, share information and begin coordinated responses. These early collaborations have informed the development of early initiatives as well as the development of the Envoy's Plan to Combat Antisemitism (the Plan).

Law Reform and Law Enforcement

An effective legal framework is essential to foster a safe and cohesive society, founded on Australian values of freedom, tolerance and mutual respect.

The Office has taken part in consultation with federal, state and territory governments concerning legislative reform; including with respect to offences of inciting violence and hatred, sentencing of criminal offences involving hatred or prejudice on the ground of a protected attribute, and the protection of Australians attending places of worship.

The legislative reform has included measures to:

- Strengthen legislation concerning criminal conduct which incites violence and/or hatred on the ground of a protected attribute, at Commonwealth level and in New South Wales and Victoria;
- Ensure Australians can attend a place of worship free of harassment, intimidation and threats, as implemented in New South Wales and as foreshadowed by the Premier of Victoria;
- Broaden the scope of circumstances in which hatred, hostility or prejudice on the ground of a protected attribute may be considered on sentence for criminal offences;
- Establish a national hate crimes and incidents database to track the progression of hatred and hostility in Australia.

These reforms promote Australian values of respect and common decency and will assist to identify and address conduct that denigrates, marginalises and ostracises a particular group based on their identity.

Schools

Schools are critical environments for shaping attitudes, challenging prejudice and building inclusive citizenship. In its first year, the Office worked with education departments and Jewish community organisations to start the process of investigating how an understanding of modern antisemitism can be taught.

Some preliminary materials have been developed with expert and teacher input and will be further refined.

Institutional Accountability and University Reform

Universities were the initial epicentre of virulent antisemitism directed at Jewish students. This included encampments, harassment and intimidation. Many Jewish students were advised to learn from home for their own safety. In its first year, the Office worked closely with the Group of Eight (Go8), Universities Australia and individual universities as they adopted a shared definition of antisemitism to feed into complaint schemes and disciplinary processes. The Office also supported the development of training on antisemitism — making it clear that genuine free expression and academic freedom rights do not provide an unlimited licence for hate, harassment or exclusion.

Work to date includes:

- Development by the Go8 of a new definition of antisemitism, largely based on the Government endorsed International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance (IHRA) definition, but shorter and easier to operationalise, and its endorsement at the Universities Australia Vice-Chancellors' plenary;
- With my support, delivery of senior and frontline staff training programs by Monash University to all Go8 as well as other universities (to be supplemented by further materials being developed for the Envoy's office by the Sydney Jewish Museum on behalf of the Alliance of Holocaust Museums);
- Inclusion of antisemitism complaints within the remit of the newly established National Student Ombudsman;
- Discussions with TEQSA on shared priorities

As noted in the Plan the next stage of work with universities involves development of a University Report Card to assist universities work towards stronger practice dealing with antisemitism. This is underway.

Security, Law Enforcement and Coordination

As highlighted in the 2025 ASIO Annual Threat Assessment, the safety of Jewish citizens, institutions and communities remains a national concern. In its first year, the Office prioritised advocating for better coordination between governments, law enforcement agencies and community security providers to ensure timely and consistent responses to threats.

This work has included high-level engagement with police commissioners and special task forces and I am very grateful for this engagement.

One Year Report to the Prime Minister: Special Envoy to Combat Antisemitism

The recent announcement regarding the involvement of Iran in funding and directing antisemitic incidents intimidating and causing fear in the Jewish community indicates the validity of ASIO's concerns and the extent of the challenge we face.

Digital Governance

Some of the most egregious hatred and intimidation of the Australian Jewish community has appeared online. In its first year, the Office began work on addressing online antisemitism through consultation and coordination with relevant stakeholders.

Work to date includes:

- Stakeholder consultations with community groups, policy experts' platforms and affected communities to inform on issues paper on online antisemitism;
- Meeting with the eSafety Commissioner and senior representatives of key online platforms regarding platform accountability and content moderation;
- A joint letter with fellow international SECCAs (Special Envoys and Coordinators Combating Antisemitism) to major social media platforms seeking details on moderation processes and transparency protocols;
- Participation in international SECCA dialogues on digital governance;
- An online forum to hear directly from Jewish Australians and community organisations about their experiences of antisemitism on social media platforms.

This remains early-stage groundwork, with work currently underway on a policy paper for government to consider.

Culture, Arts and Public Broadcasting

In its first year, the Office engaged with national broadcasters and cultural organisations to address concerns about antisemitism in publicly funded institutions.

Work to date includes:

- Meetings with senior leadership at ABC and SBS to discuss editorial standards and community concerns, and opportunities for more representative coverage of Jewish issues;
- Consultations with leading arts/ festival organisations on the exclusion of Jewish artists and creatives from cultural settings or events;
- Engagement with Jewish creatives to understand barriers to participation in cultural institutions;
- Supporting the work of Monash University MIRRA project research into antisemitism in the arts sector;
- Engagement with Creative Workplaces to assist in the participation of Jewish creatives in their government led survey;

- Meetings with cultural institutions to discuss governance approaches to dealing with issues.

Work on accountability mechanisms for public cultural funding is at an early stage and will be considered in consultation with relevant stakeholders.

General Community Education and Cohesion Building

Antisemitism can occur in workplaces, community organisations and sporting environments, sometimes in subtle or unacknowledged ways. In its first year, the Office engaged with the business and sporting sectors to understand issues and support institutions to address such conduct.

Work to date includes:

- Initial corporate roundtables with major companies to discuss identifying and addressing antisemitism in workplace culture;
- Addressing senior executives in a range of organisations to both educate them and develop a greater understanding of antisemitism and its causes;
- Gaining an understanding of the extent of antisemitism in the sporting arena.

These actions have provided a starting point for broader efforts to promote inclusion and respond effectively to antisemitism across public life.

Multicultural and Interfaith Engagement

In its first year, the Office engaged with a range of faith and multicultural communities to start building relationships and explore opportunities for joint responses to antisemitism.

Global Engagement

In its first year, the Office contributed to international efforts to address antisemitism by sharing information, building alliances and aligning approaches with global best practice.

Work to date includes:

- Representing the Foreign Minister at a key international forum on antisemitism ;
- Attending the International Holocaust Remembrance Day event at Auschwitz in an official capacity;
- Attending the Anti-Defamation League's international summit to understand international experiences and best practices regarding combating antisemitism;
- Supporting Australia's signature of the Global Guidelines for Countering Antisemitism, aligning Australia with agreed international principles;
- Discussing joint initiatives with counterparts in the UK, US, Canada and the European Union on education, online regulation and civil society engagement;

One Year Report to the Prime Minister: Special Envoy to Combat Antisemitism

- Participation in the international SECCA (Special Envoys and Coordinators Combating Antisemitism) network, including quarterly online engagement;
- Bilateral exchanges on legal frameworks, university policy and digital governance.

These activities have supported the development of the Envoy's Plan and strengthened the Office's connections with international partners addressing antisemitism.

Vibrancy and Protection of Jewish Life

In its first year, the Office supported initiatives that promote the visibility, contribution and continuity of Jewish life in Australia. This work recognises that cultural participation and representation strengthen community belonging alongside physical safety.

Work to date includes:

- Preliminary discussions with broadcasters and cultural organisations to encourage inclusion of Australian Jewish history and identity in content;
- Support for partnerships between Jewish creatives and cultural institutions to promote representation and visibility.

Community Consultation and Evaluation

In its first year, the Office undertook extensive consultation to ensure its work reflects the lived experiences and priorities of the Jewish community and relevant stakeholders. More than 100 organisations and community leaders from across every state and territory have contributed insights, concerns and recommendations.

Work to date includes:

- Regular roundtables in multiple States with communal organisations, youth leaders, educators and service providers.

Alignment with the National Anti-Racism Framework

Australia's Race Discrimination Commissioner's National Anti-Racism Framework provides a foundational layer upon which education about racism and antisemitism can build. However, given the unique nature of antisemitism, multiple touchpoints and specific antisemitism programs are necessary. The Framework's calls for legal reform, media reporting standards, education curriculum development and addressing online hate are important. The Framework recognises that different communities experience hatred differently, and the Commissioner's call for a community-centric approach has informed our consultation process. We will continue to engage with both the Race Discrimination Commissioner and Human Rights Commissioner to ensure alignment wherever possible.

The Envoy's Plan to Combat Antisemitism

The Plan was released just at the 1 year mark in July 2025 at a news conference with the Prime Minister and Minister for Home Affairs. The Plan has been actively supported by all major Jewish community organisations and has received strong support and positive feedback from the vast majority of the Jewish community. The Jewish community is keen to see a strong formal response to the Plan from government as soon as possible, including a commitment from government to support the implementation of each of its recommended measures.

Conclusion

Antisemitism poses a serious and growing challenge to our democratic fabric. This Office exists to advise Government, work with different groups in society and liaise with the Jewish community to coordinate an effective response.



AUSTRALIA'S SPECIAL ENVOY TO COMBAT ISLAMOPHOBIA

Annual Report 2024 – 25 **Establishing Islamophobia as a National Concern**

Dear Prime Minister

Islamophobia in Australia has been persistent, at times ignored, at other times denied, but never fully addressed. Islamophobia has intensified over the past two decades and Islamophobic incidents in Australia are continuing to rise.

Since my appointment in October 2024, my focus has been on engaging Muslim communities across Australia and listening to their concerns about Islamophobia. I have also provided advice, promoted education and awareness, engaging relevant stakeholders to address anti-Muslim hate and anti-Muslim sentiment so we all can succeed and contribute positively to society.

In September 2025, 11 months into my appointment, I released my independent report to Government, marking a critical and long-awaited moment for the Muslim communities of Australia. My report including my 54 recommendations, follow hundreds of hours of consultations and listening with Muslim communities and Muslim leaders across Australia and my engagement with national and international experts. It seeks to address Islamophobia not only as an interpersonal phenomenon, but also as an institutional and systemic issue that requires urgent attention. My report provides a strategic framework to address Islamophobia, through achievable, robust, and practical actions. It proposes a way forward for the religious protection of all religious communities. I welcome the Government's response to my recommendations.

My ongoing priority is to shift the national conversation to recognise that Islamophobia is not "fictitious," but real, and harmful to both Muslims and wider society. Achieving this requires a multifaceted approach that combines education, visibility, community engagement, legal action, and cultural change.

Yours sincerely

s. 47F(1)



AUSTRALIA'S SPECIAL
ENVOY TO COMBAT
ISLAMOPHOBIA



AUSTRALIA'S SPECIAL ENVOY TO COMBAT ISLAMOPHOBIA

Annual Report 2024 – 25 Key Activities

The Office of the Special Envoy to Combat Islamophobia (OSECI) Terms of Reference detail the mandate and commitment of the Special Envoy to assist and advise Government on the most effective way to combat the growing problem of Islamophobia. Below is a summary of the key activities that have been undertaken since the Special Envoys appointment. The full Terms of Reference are available online at [OSECI.gov.au](https://oseci.gov.au).

Appointment

Mr Aftab Malik has been appointed as Australia's Special Envoy to Combat Islamophobia for a 3-year term from 14 October 2024.

Terms of Reference

The OSECI Terms of Reference were established as a priority and subsequently published on the OSECI website when it launched on 30 May 2025.

Recruitment

Following the outcome of the Federal Election 2025, recruitment commenced for the Office. On 1 September 2025, applications opened for five key roles including: Senior Advisor, Communications Manager, Legal Policy Advisor, Community Engagement Lead, and Media Monitoring Officer. Applications closed on 10 September 2025, with a total of 344 applications received, these applications are currently under consideration.

Report and Recommendations to Government

On 12 September 2025, the Special Envoy's report including 54 recommendations: [*A National Response to Islamophobia: A Strategic Framework for Inclusion, Safety and Prosperity*](#) was published. The Special Envoy's recommendations followed hundreds of hours of consultations and listening to Muslim communities and Muslim leaders across Australia, and engagement with national and international experts. The report outlines the deep impact of anti-Muslim prejudice on our nation and provides a robust strategic framework with practical steps to address the problem.

- The launch received over 620 mentions across media outlets with a potential reach of 9.4 million.
- To date, 33 individuals and organisations have publicly [endorsed](#) this report including; all national organisations dedicated to combating Islamophobia and providing support for its targets, Australia's peak bodies for Imams, Islamic schools, religious edicts, Islamic Societies, and Muslim organisations from across Australia have endorsed this report.



AUSTRALIA'S SPECIAL ENVOY TO COMBAT ISLAMOPHOBIA

This also includes the national representative body for Muslim university students, some of the nation's peak community and social welfare organisations and critical community leaders.

Submissions

On 11 August 2025, the Independent National Security Legislation Monitor (INSLM) Mr Jake Blight, initiated the inquiry to review the terrorist act definition in section 100.1 of the Criminal Code Act 1995 (Cth). The Special Envoy's submission outlined that linking terrorism to religion – particularly Islam – has resulted in significant social harm, further entrenching Islamophobia. It has undermined trust between communities and government and diverted valuable law enforcement resources away from emerging security threats in Australia.

As part of ongoing engagement with the University Chancellors Council (UCC) and Universities Australia (UA), in June 2025, the Special Envoy made a submission to their Social Licence Steering Committee on [‘Strengthening Safety, Inclusion and Dialogue on Campus’](#). The Special Envoy's submission outlined the importance of committing to systemic change, and enshrining dialogue, respect, and safety as foundational principles of the way universities educate and operate.

In February 2025, the Special Envoy made a submission on the draft legislation to make it an offence to intentionally incite hatred towards another person or a group of persons on the ground of race (the NSW Crimes Amendment (Inciting Racial Hatred) Bill 2025). The Special Envoy's submission emphasised the context in which this draft legislation was being proposed and suggested alternative measures to take.

Campaigns

On 15 March (2025), in recognition of the United Nations, International Day to Combat Islamophobia, OSECI launched a campaign [‘Living with Hate, Islamophobia in Australia’](#). The campaign highlighted the violent and dehumanising effects that Islamophobia is having on the Muslim community in Australia, an increase in Islamophobic incidents and the urgent need for all Australian society to act, to cultivate a future where every Australian, regardless of faith or ethnicity, contributes to our shared vision of a peaceful and inclusive society.

Subsequently, recommendation 2 of the Special Envoy report, calls for the formal recognition of the International Day to Combat Islamophobia on 15 March, as established by the United Nations General Assembly.

In June 2025 OSECI joined and participated in the United Against Hate, Global Reporting Campaign Against Antisemitic and Anti-Muslim Hate Speech Online. This campaign, led by the



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Online Hate Prevention Institute and Online Hate Task Force, focuses on reporting content that incites hate and violence to the relevant social media platform for them to take action and to enforce rules against hate speech. The results of this campaign are available at [United Against Hate](#).

Statements

OSECI actively challenges and seeks to correct media portrayals of Muslims as well as statements, comments, and articles that are Islamophobic in nature and mispresent or harm the Muslim community. The Office utilises all resources available to increase awareness, advocate for change and enhance public knowledge. OSECI aims to publish statements online via the OSECI website, via the OSECI Instagram account and via the media. Since the Special Envoy's inaugural speech on 30 September 2024, the Office has published over 27 statements.

- 8 October 2025 – [Statement issues on the Christchurch terror threat made to the Australian Islamic Culture Centre in Sydney.](#)
- 11 September 2025 - [Sharing the Islamophobia Register Australia's press release detailing their concerns with the sharp rise in alleged violent attacks targeting Australian Muslims over the past week.](#)
- 11 September 2025 - [Sharing Senator Paul Scarr's Statement of Support for the Islamic Society of the Gold Coast, following the hoax bomb threat at the Arundel Mosque.](#)
- 9 September 2025 - [My thoughts are with the Gold Coast Muslim community following a fake bomb threat at a mosque in Arundel over the weekend.](#)
- 8 September 2025 - [Sharing Senator Paul Scarr's Statement of Support for the Islamic College of Brisbane \(ICB\), following the bomb threat and threat to murder school children that ICB received on Friday 5 September 2025.](#)
- 6 September 2025 – [Bomb threat and threat to murder Muslim schoolchildren at the Islamic college of Brisbane \(ICB\).](#)
- 5 September 2025 – [Threats to Senator Mehreen Faruqi.](#)
- 2 September 2025 – [Alleged anti-Palestinian racism on NSW transport.](#)
- 1 September 2025 – [The office of Australia's Special Envoy to Combat Islamophobia is hiring.](#)
- 22 August 2025 – [Threats towards Senator Fatima Payman.](#)
- 12 August 2025 - [Online death threats directed at a mosque in Lakemba, Sydney.](#)
- 8 August 2025- [Meeting with Federal Members and Senators.](#)
- 23 July 2025 – [Alleged Incident Outside Hume Islamic Youth Centre.](#)
- 10 July 2025 - [Special Envoy to Combat Islamophobia Announces Submission of Comprehensive Recommendations to the Prime Minister.](#)
- 18 June 2025 – [United Nations International Day for Countering Hate Speech.](#)



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- 2 May 2025 – [Condemnation of Recent Hate Crime Targeting Australian Islamic College of Sydney](#)
- 1 May 2025 – [X repost by @NovaPeris.](#)
- 16 April 2025 – [Alleged assault on Ms Diana Abdel-Rahman OAM in Canberra.](#)
- 7 April 2025 - [Sharing the Islamophobia Register Australia's press release: Attack on Mothers and Children.](#)
- 3 April 2025 – [Lakemba Mosque Threat.](#)
- 20 March 2025 - [Vile Islamophobic threat against Lakemba Mosque.](#)
- 21 March 2025 – [Special Envoy denounces threats against Muslim youth organisation.](#)
- 18 March 2025 – [Apparent drive-by shooting in Logan, Queensland provokes fear and unease among Muslims.](#)
- 6 March 2025 - [Special Envoy alarmed over threat to school in Sydney's southwest.](#)
- 4 March 2025 - [Special Envoy condemns threat to the Australian Islamic House Masjid.](#)
- 27 December 2024 - [Statement on Bankstown Kmart incident.](#)
- 30 September 2024 - [Special Envoy to Combat Islamophobia, Inaugural speech.](#)

Media Engagement

Ongoing media engagement is critical to the OSECI mandate, to raise awareness of the reality of Islamophobia and its consequences. For access and transparency, OSECI aims to publish media engagements, opinion editorials, and articles that the Special Envoy has written on the website at [OSECI.gov.au](https://oseci.gov.au).

- 12 September 2025 – Joint Press conference – Sydney - Report of the Special Envoy to Combat Islamophobia.
- [Read full transcript – Prime Minister of Australia, The Hon Anthony Albanese MP, Media](#)
- 15 March 2025 - Aftab Malik reveals his list of recommendations to ensure the Government takes Islamophobia seriously
[Read full transcript: ABC Breakfast Radio, Melbourne, 15 March 2025](#)
- 14 March 2025 - Faith envoy calls for end to hatred
[Read full story \[subscription only\]: The Australian, 14 March, 2025](#)
- 15 March 2025 - Islamophobia is an invisible daily struggle for too many Australian Muslims
[Read opinion editorial \[subscription only\]: The Australian, 15 March, 2025](#)
- 2 March 2025 - Islamophobia: What's the problem?
[Read full transcript: Introductory remarks at Adelaide Writers' Festival, 2 March, 2025](#)
- 5 March 2025 - Aftab Malik responds to news of the online social media threat against a Sydney mosque
[Read full transcript: Mornings with Hamish MacDonald, ABC Radio Sydney, 5 March 2025](#)



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- 4 March 2025 - Combating Islamophobia: 89 Seconds to Midnight
[Read opinion editorial: Australian Muslim Times \(AMUST\), 4 March 2025](#)
- 25 February 2025 - Radicaliser? Undercover agent? Aftab Malik is used to dodging accusations
[Read full story \[subscription only\]: The Sydney Morning Herald, 25 February 2025](#)
- 19 February 2025 - Aftab Malik discusses the 'normalisation' of Islamophobia following attack on two women at Melbourne shopping centre
[Read full transcript: Radio National Breakfast, ABC, 19 February 2025](#)
- 18 February 2025 - Aftab Malik believes Islamophobic incidents are under-reported in Australia
[Read full transcript: ABC Radio Melbourne, Drive, 18 February 2025 \(5:19pm\)](#)
- 18 February 2025 - Aftab Malik notes general culture of bystander inaction in the wake of attack on two women
[Read full transcript: ABC Radio Melbourne, Drive, 18 February 2025 \(5:15pm\)](#)
- 14 February 2025 - 'Deliberate orchestrated incident': Daily Telegraph caught up in stunt gone wrong
[Read full story \[subscription only\]: The Sydney Morning Herald, 14 February 2025](#)
- 24 January 2025 - 'Endemic and unreported': Special envoy says Islamophobia 'normalised' in Australia
[Read full transcript: SBS news, 24 January 2025](#)
- 20 December 2024 - Ordinary Islamophobia, extraordinary Muslims
[Read opinion editorial: Australian Muslim Times \(AMUST\), 20 December 2024](#)
- 18 December 2024 - Islamophobia is an everyday reality for too many Australians
[Read opinion editorial: The Guardian, 18 December 2024](#)
- 17 December 2024 - Aftab Malik labels Islamophobia a hidden cancer and says the scale of it in Australia, is shocking
[Read full transcript: Radio National Breakfast, ABC, 17 December 2024](#)
- 24 November 2024 - The quickest way to divide a country is to 'other' those we know little about
[Read full story \[subscription only\]: The Sydney Morning Herald, 24 November 2024](#)

Stakeholder Engagement

Stakeholder engagement is a core priority for OSECI, to inform all activity, to raise awareness of its mandate and to communicate its work and success. During November and December 2024, the Special envoy undertook a [National Listening Tour](#) of Australia meeting with over 100 Muslim community members, representing academics, experts on Islamophobia, youth, women, religious leaders, Muslim community leaders, Islamic societies and peak bodies from across Australia. Their experiences, fears, challenges, and frustrations living as Muslim Australians



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directly informed the 54 recommendations the Special Envoy made to the Government to combat Islamophobia. Following engagement with Muslim communities across Australia (which remains ongoing), the Special Envoy also met with [government agencies, NGOs, members of the private sector](#) and [Federal Members and Senators](#) to inform them of the OSECI mandate to address Islamophobia.

The Special Envoy has been the keynote speaker at several events including s. 47G(1)(a) alongside s. 47F(1) followed by a panel discussion, the town hall meeting at the s. 47G(1)(a) in Canberra as well as addressing students and schools during a visit to s. 47G(1)(a)

s. 47G(1)(a)

Resources

On 13 March 2025, the OSECI Instagram account went live. From March 2025 to September 2025, OSECI published 86 posts that received over 69,000 views, with over 19,000 views immediately following the release of the report on 12 September 2025.

On 30 May 2025, the OSECI website went live creating a centralised hub of resources for the Australian public. While the Office continues to update and enhance the content, the website currently includes information on the Special Envoy's background and appointment, Terms of Reference, recommendations to the Prime Minister - including a link to the report and endorsements, news articles, media statements and engagement as well as resources relating to Demystifying Islam, Exploring Islam in Australia, and Combatting Islamophobia. From 30 May 2025 to September 2025 the website received over 22,800 views by over 7,400 users. Over 12,000 views were immediately following the release of the report on 12 September 2025.

Research

The Special Envoy is seeking to advance research to identify gaps, and to inform/guide Office efforts by convening an interdisciplinary network of professionals and academics working on combatting Islamophobia.



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Procurement

OSECI has undertaken s. 47G(1)(a)

These initiatives were designed to enhance public engagement, build internal capacity, and support the release of the Special Envoy's report and recommendations to Government.

- Specialist Research

s. 47G(1)(a)

- Incident Desktop Analysis

s. 47G(1)(a)

The aim of this initiative is to provide a toolkit for Muslim leaders in Australia to respond effectively to future challenges, avoiding polarisation and improving strategic responses.

- OSECI staffing

s. 47G(1)(a)

- Film and Video Services

OSECI is partnering with a service provider to produce five educational videos aimed at:

- Encouraging reporting of Islamophobia within the Muslim community.
- Raising awareness of its impact and the importance of accountability.
- Promoting solidarity and inclusion.

A collaborative workshop was held on 29 September 2025 with the selected service provider and the five national Islamophobia registers to inform and shape the video series.

- Film and Video Services

OSECI is partnering with an additional service provider to develop 12 educational videos to:

- Refute extremism as contrary to normative Islam.
- Challenge stereotypes and misconceptions.
- Foster understanding through inclusive dialogue.