

From: s. 22(1)(a)(ii)
To: s. 22(1)(a)(ii)
Subject: FW: Draft: Gov response [SEC=PROTECTED, CAVEAT=SH:CABINET]
Date: Wednesday, 17 December 2025 3:37:43 PM
Attachments: s. 47C(1)

~~PROTECTED//CABINET~~

~~PROTECTED//CABINET~~

From: s. 22(1)(a)(ii)
Sent: Wednesday, 17 December 2025 2:43 PM
To: s. 22(1)(a)(ii) (DFAT) s. 22(1)(a)(ii)@dfat.gov.au>; s. 22(1)(a)(ii) (DFAT) s. 22(1)(a)(ii)@dfat.gov.au>
Cc: Sneha CHATTERJEE s. 22(1)(a)(ii)@HOMEAFFAIRS.GOV.AU>; Zoe WILLIAMS s. 22(1)(a)(ii)@homeaffairs.gov.au>; FAS OMA <s. 22(1)(a)(ii)@homeaffairs.gov.au>; DLO Aly s. 22(1)(a)(ii)@homeaffairs.gov.au>; MO Registration <s. 22(1)(a)(ii)@homeaffairs.gov.au>
Subject: Draft: Gov response [SEC=PROTECTED, CAVEAT=SH:CABINET]

~~PROTECTED//CABINET~~

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

With redrafted intro included.

Still al needs some more work plus all the additional request that have come in today.

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.

From: s. 22(1)(a)(ii)
To: s. 22(1)(a)(ii) (DFAT); s. 22(1)(a)(ii) (DFAT); DLO Aly; MO Registration
Cc: Sneha CHATTERJEE; Zoe WILLIAMS; s. 22(1)(a)(ii) ; Priority Response team
Subject: RE: Additional changes and input [SEC=PROTECTED, CAVEAT=SH:CABINET]
Date: Wednesday, 17 December 2025 8:15:46 PM
Attachments: image001.png

PROTECTED//CABINET

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

The below is also not mentioned in the draft, and it could be, either under 'definition' or the Envoy's Work Plan section:

The Envoy will publish a supplementary guide to the IHRA definition (an IHRA Handbook), which will assist in its application in an Australian context.

Thanks

s. 22

PROTECTED//CABINET

From: s. 22(1)(a)(ii)
Sent: Wednesday, 17 December 2025 7:03 PM
To: s. 22(1)(a)(ii) (DFAT) s. 22(1)(a)(ii) @dfat.gov.au; s. 22(1)(a)(ii) (DFAT) s. 22(1)(a)(ii) @dfat.gov.au; DLO Aly s. 22(1)(a)(ii) @homeaffairs.gov.au; MO Registration s. 22(1)(a)(ii) @homeaffairs.gov.au
Cc: Sneha CHATTERJEE <s. 22(1)(a)(ii) @HOMEAFFAIRS.GOV.AU>; Zoe WILLIAMS s. 22(1)(a)(ii) @homeaffairs.gov.au; s. 22(1)(a)(ii) @HOMEAFFAIRS.GOV.AU>; Priority Response team s. 22(1)(a)(ii) @homeaffairs.gov.au
Subject: FW: Additional changes and input [SEC=PROTECTED, CAVEAT=SH:CABINET]
Importance: High

PROTECTED//CABINET

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

Please find below the additional agency feedback that came through later today that is of interest, flagging for your consideration.

Thanks

s. 22

~~PROTECTED//CABINET~~

From: S. 22(1)(a)(ii) [redacted] <[\[redacted\]@homeaffairs.gov.au](mailto:[redacted]@homeaffairs.gov.au)>
Sent: Wednesday, 17 December 2025 6:58 PM
To: S. 22(1)(a)(ii) [redacted] <[\[redacted\]@homeaffairs.gov.au](mailto:[redacted]@homeaffairs.gov.au)>
Cc: Priority Response team S. 22(1)(a)(ii) [redacted] <[\[redacted\]@homeaffairs.gov.au](mailto:[redacted]@homeaffairs.gov.au)>
Subject: Additional changes and input [SEC-PROTECTED, CAVEAT-SH:CABINET]
Importance: High

~~PROTECTED//CABINET~~

S. 22
[redacted]

Further input received from CabNet:

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

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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From: s. 22(1)(a)(ii)
To: s. 22(1)(a)(ii)
Cc: s. 22(1)(a)(ii) ; s. 22(1)(a)(ii) ; [Priority Response team](#)
Subject: RE: Query regarding Government Response - IHRA Definition [SEC=OFFICIAL:Sensitive]
Date: Monday, 19 January 2026 2:01:03 PM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)

OFFICIAL: Sensitive

Thanks for your prompt response s. 22(1)(a)(ii) – really appreciate it when you're so busy!

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

From: s. 22(1)(a)(ii) @homeaffairs.gov.au>
Sent: Monday, 19 January 2026 1:27 PM
To: s. 22(1)(a)(ii) @pmc.gov.au>
Cc: s. 22(1)(a)(ii) @homeaffairs.gov.au>; s. 22(1)(a)(ii) s. 22(1)(a)(ii) @homeaffairs.gov.au>; s. 22(1)(a)(ii) @homeaffairs.gov.au>; Priority Response team s. 22(1)(a)(ii) @homeaffairs.gov.au>
Subject: FW: Query regarding Government Response - IHRA Definition [SEC=OFFICIAL:Sensitive]

OFFICIAL: Sensitive

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

Please highlighted update in response to your request this morning below.

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



Australian Government



OFFICE FOR
MULTICULTURAL
AFFAIRS

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

From: S. 22(1)(a)(ii) <[REDACTED]@pmc.gov.au>
Sent: Sunday, 18 January 2026 1:55 PM
To: S. 22(1)(a)(ii) <[REDACTED]@homeaffairs.gov.au>
Cc: Immigration and Multiculturalism S. 22(1)(a)(ii) <[REDACTED]@pmc.gov.au>; S. 22(1)(a)(ii) <[REDACTED]@pmc.gov.au>; Priority Response team
Subject: RE: Query regarding Government Response - IHRA Definition [SEC=OFFICIAL:Sensitive]

OFFICIAL: Sensitive

Hi S. 22(1)(a)(ii) <[REDACTED]@pmc.gov.au>

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

The IHRA definition

- The Australian Government joined the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance (IHRA) in 2019 and 'embraced' the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance (IHRA) working definition in 2021.
- In July 2024, the Australian Government endorsed the [Global Guidelines for Countering Antisemitism](#).
 - The Guidelines state that the non-legally binding IHRA definition is an internationally recognised instrument used by over 40 United Nations member states since adoption in 2016.
- As recognised by the Guidelines, the IHRA definition is a tool to understand the various manifestations of antisemitism and to combat it. It is not a legally binding definition.
- For the purpose of legal frameworks administered by the Attorney-General, antisemitism is not defined.
 - For example, federal anti-discrimination law draws directly upon the internationally-agreed definition of discrimination in the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination (the Convention), which does not define any particular type of racism.

Australian Government response to the Special Envoy's Plan to Combat Antisemitism

The Special Envoy's Plan to Combat Antisemitism states that 'the Australian Government should require consistent application and adoption of the IHRA definition across all levels of Government, public institutions and regulatory bodies' to '...provide a unified framework for identifying, educating on, monitoring and responding effectively to antisemitic incidents' (Special Envoy's Plan to Combat Antisemitism, p. 6).

- The Government response reads: 'the Australian Government's official definition of antisemitism is the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance's working definition. This definition of antisemitism will assist in framing the issue, understanding its causes and coordinating across governments and communities to undertake action to address it.' (Government response, p.5).

Next steps

- As outlined in the Government Response, the Special Envoy will develop and publish a supplementary guide to the IHRA definition, to assist in its application in an Australian context.
 - The Special Envoy is expected to complete this work by **early February 2026**

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

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

IHRA Definition

DFAT endorsed wording re Govt. Position on IHRA definition

The Australian Government's official definition of antisemitism is the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance's (IHRA) working definition of antisemitism. This definition of antisemitism will assist in framing the issue, understanding its causes and coordinating across governments and communities to undertake action to address it. The IHRA's working definition was embraced by the Australian Government in 2021. The Government considers this non legally binding definition to be important in addressing Antisemitism across the nation and as a useful contribution to global efforts to combat antisemitism. The Government considers the contemporary examples within the IHRA working definition of antisemitism as an illustrative list of examples.

With additional input from the PM's announcement

The Australian Government's official definition of antisemitism is the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance's (IHRA) working definition of antisemitism. This definition of antisemitism will assist in framing the issue, understanding its causes and coordinating across governments and communities to undertake action to address it. The IHRA's working definition was embraced by the Australian Government in 2021. The Government considers this non legally binding definition to

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be important in addressing Antisemitism across the nation and as a useful contribution to global efforts to combat antisemitism. **The definition does not prevent legitimate criticism of the actions of Israel but highlights that such criticism should not differ from that directed towards other States.** The Government considers the contemporary examples within the IHRA working definition of antisemitism as an illustrative list of examples.

Reference to IHRA commentary regarding examples

Defining antisemitism is a key element in addressing this prejudice within our community. The Australian Government's official definition of antisemitism is the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance's (IHRA) working definition which will assist in framing the issue, understanding its causes and coordinating action across governments, communities and in the international context. The IHRA's working definition was embraced by the Australian Government in 2021 and is not legally binding. Relevant to your concerns, the examples of antisemitism, which the IHRA offer for illustrative purposes, highlight that criticism of Israel similar to that leveled against any other country cannot be regarded as antisemitic.

IHRA definition shouldn't divide

The Government is conscious that the events of 14 December 2025 should not be a basis to divide Australia or used as justification for discrimination or hatred targeted against particular groups. The Australian Government has adopted the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance definition of antisemitism to assist in framing the issue, understanding its causes and coordinating action to address it. This non-legally binding definition does not prevent legitimate criticism of the actions of Israel but highlights that such criticism should not differ from that directed towards other States

Aligning with the SE's Recommendations

Aligning with the Special Envoy's recommendations, the Australian Government's official definition of antisemitism is the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance's (IHRA) working definition. The Government considers this non-legally binding definition to be important in addressing antisemitism across the nation and as a useful contribution to global efforts to combat antisemitism. The definition does not prevent legitimate criticism of the actions of Israel but highlights that such criticism should not differ from that directed towards other States.

Conflation concerns

I note your concerns regarding the conflation of antisemitism with legitimate criticism of Israeli policies. You may be aware that the Government has adopted the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance's (IHRA) working definition of antisemitism in an effort to assist in framing the issue, understanding its causes and coordinating action to respond to it. The IHRA's working definition was embraced by the Australian Government in 2021 and is not legally binding. The examples of

antisemitism, which the IHRA offer for illustrative purposes, highlight that criticism of Israel similar to that levelled against any other country cannot be regarded as antisemitic.

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