



Australian Government

Australian Government response to the
Parliamentary Joint Committee on Intelligence and Security report:

Advisory report on the amendments made by the Australian
Citizenship Amendment (Citizenship Repudiation) Bill 2023

August 2024

Recommendations

Recommendation 1: the Government consider any potential amendments to the new cessation regime in the Australian Citizenship Act 2007 after a reasonable period of 18-24 months so that its operation and effectiveness can be assessed.

*Response: The Government **accepts** this recommendation.*

The Government agrees that 18-24 months is a reasonable period to allow before considering potential amendments to the citizenship cessation regime. However, the Government may consider amendments within a shorter time frame if necessary to protect Australia's national security.

Recommendation 2: should the Government consider any potential amendments to the new cessation regime after 18-24 months, the Committee recommends that the Government:

- Further consider the safeguards against rendering a person stateless with the Australian Citizenship Act 2007, to ensure that the provisions prevent the possibility of a person being left stateless, including in a de facto sense where they are unable to effectively exercise the rights of citizenship of the other country.
- Reconsider the inclusion of children aged 14-17 in the citizenship cessation regime and, if application of the regime to children is considered absolutely necessary, the Australian Citizenship Act 2007 be amended so that it is clear that a court may only make a citizenship cessation order in exceptional circumstances.

*Response: The Government **accepts** this recommendation.*

Noting that in paragraph 3.8 of the report the Committee is generally satisfied with the safeguards provided by the *Australian Citizenship Amendment (Citizenship Repudiation) Act 2023*, the Government agrees to consider amendments, if required and after review, to further ensure against statelessness, including in a de facto sense, and the inclusion of children aged 14-17.