

Workshop: A Human Rights Act for Australia? Resource Materials

These selected resources are intended to facilitate participation in the National Human Rights Consultation (NHRC). The websites provide information about the NHRC process and the protection of human rights in Australia and internationally.

National Human Rights Consultation

<http://www.humanrightsconsultation.gov.au/>

This is the official website for the NHRC. It contains the terms of reference, a background paper and the dates for submissions and community roundtables. You can register to attend a roundtable or make submissions online.

AUSTRALIAN RESOURCES

ACT Human Rights Act Research Project

<http://acthra.anu.edu.au/index.html>

This website contains various materials on human rights protection in each Australian jurisdiction.

Amnesty International Australia

<http://www.amnesty.org.au/yourhumanrights/>

This website has a template that individuals can use to make online submissions to the NHRC Committee. It also provides information about current protection of human rights in Australia, and explains how a Human Rights Act might enhance those protections.

Australian Human Rights Commission (AHRC)

<http://www.hreoc.gov.au/letstalkaboutrights/index.html>

This website provides information about the nature of human rights and how they are protected under domestic and international law. It contains information on the NHRC and activities that the AHRC is undertaking in relation to it.

Australian Human Rights Group (AHRG)

<http://www.humanrightsact.com.au/ahrg/>

This community-focussed website explains the NHRC process, answers commonly asked questions about human rights acts, and provides information about the legal protection of human rights in other countries.

GetUp! Action for Australia

<http://www.getup.org.au/campaign/rights/407>

This website has a community advocacy focus and provides information about human rights protections in Australia and overseas. Individuals can make an online submission to the NHRC.

Gilbert & Tobin Centre for Public Law

<http://www.gtcentre.unsw.edu.au/resources/charterOfHumanRights.asp>

This website contains material about human rights generally and the debate on a Human Rights Act in particular. The website has useful information on how to write a submission to a law reform body.

Human Rights Law Resource Centre (HRLRC)

http://www.hrlrc.org.au/html/s01_home/home.asp

This website includes a comprehensive report, *The National Human Rights Consultation: Engaging in the Debate*, which is designed to enable individuals and organisations to participate in the NHRC in an informed and evidence-based way. It also contains a wide range of other human rights resources.

Public Interest Advocacy Centre (PIAC)

<http://www.piac.asn.au/>

PIAC has produced *Protecting Human Rights in Australia - a Community Education Kit* which can be downloaded from its website. The Kit includes useful fact sheets illustrating how human rights are relevant to particular groups of Australians.

Public Interest Law Clearing House (PILCH)

http://www.pilch.org.au/human_rights_consultation/

The PILCH website provides information for individuals and organisations wishing to apply for pro bono legal assistance and general information on the NHRC process.

Victorian Council of Social Service (VCOSS)

<http://www.vcooss.org.au/>

The VCOSS website provides information on a number of human rights issues, in particular the importance of economic, social and cultural rights in the community sector.

Victorian Equal Opportunity & Human Rights Commission (VEOHRC)

<http://www.humanrightscommission.vic.gov.au/human%20rights/>

This website contains information about the legal protection of human rights in Victoria, including under the *Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities Act 2006* (Vic).

INTERNATIONAL RESOURCES

Bayefsky.com

<http://www.bayefsky.com/>

This website provides information about the operation of the UN human rights system. It contains various human rights documents, including human rights treaties, state reports, and human rights jurisprudence.

British Institute of Human Rights (BIHR)

<http://www.bihr.org.uk/>

The BIHR is a community focussed organisation which aims to support individuals and organisations to use human rights. Its website contains case studies that illustrate how the UK Human Rights Act has been used to achieve tangible change.

Human Rights Index

<http://www.universalhumanrightsindex.org/>

This website includes a searchable database of international human rights jurisprudence.

Interights

<http://www.interights.org>

This website contains a searchable database of international and commonwealth human rights jurisprudence.

Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights – Human Rights Treaty Bodies

<http://www.ohchr.org/EN/HRBodies/Pages/HumanRightsBodies.aspx>

This website is the official website for each of the United Nations human rights treaties bodies, and contains key human rights instruments and jurisprudence. It also includes a database of international human rights jurisprudence.

University of Minnesota Human Rights Library

<http://www.umn.edu/humanrts/>

This website contains international and regional human rights documents, including human rights treaties and international and regional jurisprudence.