

**From:** [Scott O'Keefe](#)  
**To:** [Committee, Migration \(REPS\)](#)  
**Subject:** inquiry into the role of permanent migration in nation building: a submission  
**Date:** Monday, 30 January 2023 4:55:05 PM

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I am deeply concerned with the loaded/biased terms of reference of the inquiry, particularly:

"2. Immigration as a strategic enabler of vibrant economies and socially sustainable communities in our cities and regional hubs"

Immigration increases Australia's population. There is an assumption that this is beneficial. Australia passed the point of having a sustainable population decades ago.

By continuing to increase population, immigration leads us even further away from sustainable communities and a sustainable Australia, and towards increasing degradation of the environment, including via increases in greenhouse gas emissions.

Immigration has also helped to stagnate the growth in real wages for most Australians, put upward pressure on housing affordability, and placed ever more pressure on inadequate infrastructure.

For immigration to lead to sustainable outcomes, there must be a decrease in the scale, preferably to a number closer to 50,000 per annum.

Permanent visas for skilled migrants should only be available to those who have demonstrated a period of employment requiring/utilising those skills.

The Temporary Skilled Migration Income Threshold must be set at a level greater than the median full-time wage.

The proportion of international students enrolled in any course(s) must be capped, e.g. at 20% or less.

Thank you,  
Scott

