



PARLIAMENT of AUSTRALIA

MEDIA RELEASE

PARLIAMENTARY JOINT COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE AND SECURITY

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Public hearing to discuss War Crimes

Parliament's Intelligence and Security Committee will hold a public hearing on Monday for its review of the Criminal Code Amendment (War Crimes) Bill 2016.

The Bill will amend Division 268 of the Criminal Code to ensure consistency between Australian domestic law and international law regarding the treatment of members of organised armed groups in non-international armed conflicts.

The Bill is intended to provide legal certainty for the Australian Defence Force in operations that target members of organised armed groups with lethal force.

The Chair of the Committee, Mr Michael Sukkar MP, said 'the Committee will closely examine the Bill to ensure that it helps provide certainty for Australian Defence Force operations, while promoting adherence to international humanitarian law'.

Public hearing: Monday, 7 November 2016, Committee Room 1S3, Parliament House, Canberra

8.45am to 9.05am: Professor Ben Saul (by teleconference)

9.05am to 9.45am: Attorney-General's Department and Department of Defence

The hearing will be broadcast live (audio only) at: <http://www.aph.gov.au/live>

The Committee has been asked to report by Friday, 18 November 2016.

Further information about the inquiry can be accessed via the Committee's website at <http://www.aph.gov.au/pjicis>. The Bill and Explanatory Memorandum can be accessed via http://www.aph.gov.au/Parliamentary_Business/Bills_Legislation.

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