



Citizenship and the Constitution: we want to hear from you

A panel of Australia's leading experts on the Constitution will gather in Canberra on **Friday, 20 March** to discuss what it means to be an Australian citizen in the twenty first century, and the community is invited to attend, listen on the Parliamentary website, tweet or submit video questions.

While changes to the Constitution are rare, a number of High Court decisions have challenged how we interpret our Constitution and the rights of citizens. In addition, a changing social and security environment may challenge how we confer or uphold citizenship.

The Social Policy and Legal Affairs Committee will host a roundtable discussion to debate these and other issues surrounding citizenship and the Constitution.

The roundtable will begin at **9.15am** on **Friday 20 March** in the **Main Committee Room**, Parliament House, Canberra. There will be three sessions:

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| 9.15am | Session One: <i>High Court decisions and their impact on the understanding of citizenship</i>
(introduction by Professor Kim Rubenstein) |
| 11.00am | Session Two: <i>Rights and responsibilities of citizenship under the Constitution</i>
(introduction by Professor George Williams) |
| 12.45pm | Session Three: <i>The Australian Constitution and citizenship in the twenty first century</i>
(featuring video and Twitter questions) |

A full list of participants and a detailed program for the day will be published on the Committee website (at www.aph.gov.au/spla) in coming weeks.

The roundtable will be livestreamed on the Australian Parliament House website at <http://www.aph.gov.au/live>. You can also engage with the panel during the roundtable on Twitter using the hashtag **#auscon** or by tweeting at the House of Representatives Twitter handle **@aboutthehouse**.

Video Questions

Video questions should be framed around the theme of 'the Australian Constitution and citizenship in the twenty first century' and will be played in the third session of the roundtable. If you wish to submit a video question, please check the [Committee website](#) for criteria.

For further information about the Constitutional Roundtable and how you can participate, please visit <http://www.aph.gov.au/spla> or contact the Committee secretariat on (02) 6277 2358.

For media comment, please contact the Committee Chair, Mr George Christensen MP, on (07) 4944 0622 or (02) 6277 4538.