

SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ON LEGAL AND CONSTITUTIONAL AFFAIRS
AUSTRALIAN HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION

Question No. 4

Senator Barnett asked the following question at the hearing on 8 February 2010:

In answer to Question 7 from Additional Estimates October 2009, the AHRC indicated that it considered Australia to be in breach of a number of its international obligations regarding anti-terror laws:

What other international obligations does the Commission consider Australia to be in breach of?

Please identify the relevant general area of law, the relevant international instrument(s), the relevant pieces of domestic legislation and the action needed to bring Australia into international compliance. Please use the same format as Question 7 from Additional Estimates October 2009.

The answer to the honourable senator's question is as follows:

It is not appropriate for the Commission to go through all pieces of legislation in order to provide comment on Australia's compliance with its international human rights obligations. The Commission has regularly provided comment on specific bills before Parliament in the form of submissions made to various parliamentary committees. Attached for your information are the submissions it has made during the past three years.