

THE PEOPLE'S INQUIRY: EXPLORING THE CASE FOR AN INDEPENDENT AND PEACEFUL AUSTRALIA



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Looking at the issue of the rule of law and democratic rights in the context of an independent Australia, I think it's telling to look at New Zealand, particularly at the moment. New Zealand, of course, moved away from the U.S alliance in a substantive sense back in the 1980s under David Lange, although of course still has some links to it, but is not wedded to it. When you do that, what it enables a country to do is to create a much more vigorous and vibrant democracy, but also a democracy in which Individual rights and a commitment to the rule of law becomes much more important.

An independent Australia means one in which we adopt laws that are committed to and underpinned by fundamental human rights and respect for those human rights and we don't trade off those rights to participate in war like measures such as the never-ending war on terror.

I encourage you to make a submission to this very important inquiry.



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