

Bob Boughton

Support for the demands of the Uluru Statement of the Heart should form the first and most fundamental plank of the Australian peace movement. We have no moral basis on which to oppose current and future imperialist war-mongering whilever we do not begin to deal with the ongoing conflicts which result from the imperialist wars which created this nation in the first place. A constitutionally-enshrined Voice to Parliament, followed by the legislative establishment of a Makaratta Commission to oversight treaty-making and truth telling is the essential first step towards establishing a peaceful Australia.

Second, the recent AUKUS decision once again highlights the risk to Australia and the region that arises from the US alliance. While both major parties support this alliance, the peace movement remains politically unrepresented. The first step towards regaining our independence and sovereignty is to campaign for the removal of all US military bases in the region and the revival of the nuclear free and independent pacific coalition to take action across the region.

More links must be built with the environment movement across our region, especially with the growing opposition to non-renewable energy sources including coal. The military is a major contributor to the problem of global warming, through the production, operation and constant replacement of military equipment.

It is also therefore imperative to oppose the increased participation of Australian companies in the arms industry, on both peace and environmental grounds.