

28<sup>th</sup> April 2021

### **Submission to Indigenous Voice Co-design Process**

I am a non-indigenous woman, but I want to give my strongest support to the rights of all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples in this country. For too long their position as the original occupants and caretakers of this land has been denied and debased. The time is long overdue for all Australians to stand in solidarity with our indigenous sisters and brothers.

Therefore, I affirm the Uluru Statement from the Heart and its call for a national **Voice to Parliament, which is enshrined in the Australian Constitution**. I also support its call for a Makarrata Commission to supervise agreement making and truth telling of our shared history. This National Voice is not a third chamber of Parliament, as has been argued by some politicians, but a Voice to Parliament, enshrined in the Constitutions, providing First Nations Peoples with the opportunity to advise Parliament on issues related to them.

I therefore ask the Australian Government:

1. To take a model for a Voice to Parliament to a referendum, and
2. To pass legislation for the Voice after the referendum, and
3. To ensure that voices at all levels of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people are heard

Yours Faithfully,  
Christine Hannan