

National Cultural Policy Submission

1471732

Public and anonymous



Short submission (text box 500 words or less)

My concerns relate to Pilar's 3 and 4 - Strong Cultural Infrastructure and Freedom from political influence:

Strong cultural infrastructure absolutely must be based on artistic freedom of speech. Alignment with Creative Australia Act (11.e \,to uphold and promote freedom of expression in the arts\,) is key in the National Cultural Policy.

- In order to create strong cultural infrastructure, art must be able to facilitate critical discourse, address political issues and critique power and class structures.
- In order to create strong cultural infrastructure, there must be an end to the culture of intimidation that prevents artists from expressing and creating art freely.
- The National Cultural Policy must address the prevalence of censorship, targeting and cancellation of artists who speak out against injustices, particularly in relation to nations that have been condemned by the UN for acts of apartheid, genocide and war crimes.

Freedom from political interference in the arts

- In order to create strong cultural infrastructure, the arts must remain independent and free from political interference. We can't have lobbyists and international influences destroying freedom of speech and expression, it's not right. We must implement an inquiry into political interference in the arts, including through donations and board membership and lobbying, because donors should not be able to influence arts organisations and institutions like we have seen in poetry, classical music and the arts. It's immoral. Board members with connections to political parties or lobbyists should not be allowed to remain, we need arts focused representatives not agenda first influences.