

National Cultural Policy Submission

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Individual

Hannah Robert



Short submission (text box 500 words or less)

To see the Board of Creative Australia being forced to dump Khaled Sabsabi as Australia's representative at the Venice Biennale, and then months later walking back their decision has been an embarrassing demonstration of the current level of political interference in the arts.

To remedy this situation, the new National Cultural Policy should include:

- strong cultural infrastructure based on freedom of speech (as already enshrined in the Creative Australia Act s11e)
- measures to address the prevalence of censorship, targeting and cancellation of artists who speak out against injustices, particularly in regard to nations that have been charged with war crimes by International Tribunals.
- removal of the IHRA definition of antisemitism from all arts, cultural and educational institutions, to be replaced with the UN Core Stance of Values: \,The UN asserts that all human beings are born free and equal in dignity and rights , without distinction of any kind, including race or ethnic origin. It maintains that no state, institution, group or individual should make any discrimination in human rights and fundamental freedoms\,