



AusReps

Australia's

Representatives

The Constitution

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1. Preamble

1. The name of this political party is Australia's Representatives ("the Party"), abbreviated as AusReps.
2. The Party intends to stand candidates in elections to the House of Representatives and the Senate of the Federal Parliament of Australia.
3. The party's logo is placed at the front page of this Constitution.
4. This Constitution of the Party, authorised by the Party's Founder, commences from the date of lodgement of the Party's application for registration with the Australian Electoral Commission.
5. The Party intends in due course to take appropriate steps to stand candidates for election to the various parliaments of the States and Territories of the Commonwealth of Australia, and to their local councils (if any).
6. This Party has come about in response to the disproportionate actions of governments Australia-wide since March 2020 and is committed to restoring the basic freedoms: of speech, thought and action – that are the natural birthrights of the Australian people.
7. The Party aims to rid Australia of Top-Down governments where party donor agendas, globalist, elitist or other vested interests, conflicted advisers and lobbyists, and in some cases even political corruption and criminal behaviour influence and drive policy and legislative agendas that are imposed upon the Australian people.
8. The Party has a commitment to Representative Democracy where our elected members serve the people and not this party – and definitely not any vested interests.
9. The Party's platform and processes represent a pathbreaking innovation and fundamental redesign of representative democracy. As part of this, the Party will seek to create an IT platform for elected members to engage with constituents to assist them in the formation of legislative agendas and policies. This consultation will ensure that all Australians are properly represented in the House of Representatives and in the Senate of the Australian Federal Parliament. Such information-rich consultation will mark a complete departure from the Top Down policy-making processes of the current major political parties and take Australia closer to a form of direct democracy.
10. The Party's elected members will be far more accountable to their electorate than any other party's through a public Community Pact they sign and through conscience voting – subject to alignment with the values and principles of the Party. This is a Party of robust and respectful debate, not just in the Party room but across all public channels – something that has been missing in Australia's federal and State Parliaments during 2020 and 2021.
11. The Party is committed to supporting the people of Australia in their pursuit of happiness in the manner they deem fit in their natural liberty as sovereign citizens, through institutions that advance equality of opportunity and defend liberty and property rights. As part of this, the Party is committed to:
 - i. a tightly run government that is managed efficiently and does not intrude into people's lives unless such action is robustly and transparently justified and subject to checks and balances; and
 - ii. the welfare of those who, through no fault of their own, are unable to care for themselves, such as those with disabilities, children without adequate support and the homeless. No one must get left behind.
12. The Party is committed to the mateship and unity of the people of Australia so we can together celebrate this great nation and live in ever-increasing harmony.

13. Every Australian citizen shall have an equal opportunity to join the Party and to progress through its ranks. No member will be discriminated against on the basis of his or her religion, ethnicity, or membership of any non-political organisation that is not banned or otherwise proscribed by the government.
14. The Party affirms its unrelenting commitment to human values that have stood the test of time, values such as honesty, courage, fortitude, dignity and honour.
15. The Party affirms its unqualified commitment to the defence of Australia and its respect and support for those who risk their life to protect and defend us.

2. Aims and objectives

2.1 Perpetual consultation

1. The Party will require its candidates to sign a Community Pact, to then be appropriately published by the Party, in which they commit to perpetually consult and engage with their electorates and that their votes as elected members to the Parliament will reflect the wishes and expectations of their constituents – subject to alignment with the values and principles of the Party.
2. All elected members of the Party will be required to commit to be responsive to issues raised in writing by their constituents. Where appropriate, they will be able to provide a consolidated response. Where a common issue is raised by a sufficient number of constituents, the elected member will commit to raising the matter in the Parliament.
3. The Party will seek to assist elected members with a range of consultation tools including IT-based innovations. Elected members will seek the support from volunteers within their electorates and engage in any local assemblies or town hall meetings to engage with their communities.
4. The Party's policy positions will be informed by this perpetual feedback from elected members and their constituents.

2.2 Values

1. In addition to the values highlighted in the Preamble, the Party champions the primacy of human rights including (illustratively) privacy, protection from any unnecessary government surveillance, freedom of speech, freedom of movement, freedom of religion, freedom of choice and bodily autonomy.
2. The Party believes that any role for the government in the private lives of the citizens of Australia must be thoroughly justified and transparently assessed to be in the best interests for all Australians before any such intervention is adopted.
3. The Party embraces the primacy of the family as a foundational unit of society and the primacy of parental choice and beliefs in determining the welfare of their children. The Party opposes government interventions that undermine the role of parents. Considerations regarding the family are a matter of individual belief and self-management and must remain largely outside the scope of the government.
4. The party is committed to the health and wellbeing of all children including sustainable policies to assure their future.
5. The Party is focused on supporting the regeneration of the soul of the nation. The Party opposes precepts that undermine individual responsibility and character development, or fail to contextualise historical events, thus creating divisions and undermining social progress.
5. The Party will build a culture of transparency in all public institutions of Australia and expose any corruption.

6. Party candidates and elected members commit to personally behave in a manner that meets the expectations of their constituents.
7. Members of the National Executive of the Party, the Party's candidates and elected members will be required to disclose any significant conflicts of interest and identify any significant companies that brief or lobby them for specific policies.

2.3 Party's policy framework and a guiding Policy Platform

1. The Party will publish a policy framework to guide its policy-making process. The framework will include a standard utilitarian social cost-benefit approach but supplement it with a deontological emphasis on liberty and property rights.
2. In considering policy or reviewing bills and legislation, the Party is committed to the use of Legislative or Regulatory Impact Statements wherever possible, with a cost-benefit test supplemented by detailed analysis of any impacts on liberty, on the family, on the community and on the environment – with this information being made available for public comment.
3. The Party promotes policy and legislative agendas that are evidence-based and transparent to the Australian people, with relevant data obtained from independent, non-conflicted individuals. The Party will focus on fully substantiated facts and implications of policy on human rights. The Party rejects speculative approaches such as models that have no relationship to reality, scientism (belief in science), or the precautionary principle.
4. A combination of perpetual consultation and robust policy analysis will inform the Party's policy platform which will act as a guide to the Party's candidates and elected members.

2.4 Conscience voting by elected members

1. We consider that society is ill-served by group think. We prefer challenging debates that illuminate and inform the best way forward for society.
2. With the exception of Supply Bills and Confidence motions, the Party supports, in-principle, all its elected members to vote with their conscience with respect to what they believe is in the best interests of their electorate.
3. This is considered acceptable to the Party even where a member votes contrary to Party policy but consistent with the Party's values and policy frameworks and through a detailed public disclosure of reasons. The Party may lay out stronger justification requirements from elected members who form part of the Cabinet of a federal government.

2.5 Policy directions

1. The policies listed in this sub-section are illustrative and indicative of possible directions of the Party's policy platform. Consistent with the Party's commitment to public consultation, these policy directions will be discussed with the community.
2. The Party will work closely with Australia's indigenous communities to find a pathway to heal and resolve any remaining abuses and oppressions and make Australians genuinely unite as a nation. The Party will work to rid Australia of any residual institutional mistreatment or contempt whereby the legal system or Parliament rejects the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders' laws and culture either in-principle or in practice. If appropriate, the Party will seek to establish a Council which elected representatives of Australia can consult to better understand the needs and wishes of Australia's indigenous communities.

3. The Party respects migrants to Australia, old and new, and will work to provide everyone the opportunity to prosper in a free Australia. The liberty, property rights and self-management of all Australians will be the highest of priority.
4. The Party is committed to the welfare of all children including their physical protection, mental welfare, guardianship, stewardship and quality education – with primacy given to the central role of parents (where they are available) in this process. The Party is determined to stamp out any sexual abuse of children. We will investigate and seek to remedy any systematic abuses in this regard and seek public disclosure of the identity of such perpetrators.
5. The Party is committed to stewardship of the environment and the use of regenerative technologies that facilitate agriculture, efficient land use and economic prosperity while minimising harmful pollution and the loss of natural habitat. The Party seeks to protect the collective future of Australia’s citizens and contribute our reasonable share as a nation to the protection of the collective future of the global community – such actions at all times being driven by objectively verifiable data.
6. The Party will champion private enterprise, particularly small and family businesses, and encourage the re-building of a sustainable and vibrant economy that utilises our natural resources in the most efficiently sustainable manner, builds innovation through competition and ensures a manufacturing sector that is globally competitive. The Party will encourage an agile manufacturing sector while addressing any national security implications, to ensure that redundant supply chains can be tapped into during a crisis.
7. The Party is committed to minimal taxation of the community and businesses, with just enough taxation to support a minimally essential but effective role of government. The Party would seek to minimise any public debt and achieve a balanced budget.
8. The Party recognises a free media – the fourth pillar of society – as the immune system of Representative Democracy. However, we do not support a media that drives hidden globalist or commercial agendas and misleads the people or blocks honest discussion and debate. Conflicts of interest in the media are as fatal to liberty as conflicts of interests in other institutions. The Party will require media owners to eliminate any moral hazard, such as their promotion of pharmaceutical companies’ interests, by either building arms-lengths processes or divesting such interests. We will seek to establish an independent body to ensure the unquestionable integrity of journalism in Australia.
9. The Party’s foundational principle in relation to bodily autonomy is: “my body my choice”, with similar sentiments enshrined in international covenants. We reject conscription on medical matters and insist on duly informed consent for medical procedures, which means no coercion: whether direct or indirect.
10. The Party will seek to unwind legislation and policy that unnecessarily restricts freedoms. Illustratively, while the Party is aware of the benefit of surveillance tools such as facial recognition or 24/7 surveillance cameras to minimise terrorist attacks, such tools often hand over significant power over individuals to the government without strict priors of evidence, warrant and due process. The Party is concerned that such tools are being misused to create an Orwellian state, a situation from which it may become increasingly difficult for governments in the future to reverse course.
11. The Party rejects obligatory secondary identification such as a universal ID or vaccine passports – particularly as a criteria for movement or access to services. Such measures are an unwarranted invasion of privacy and amount to significant over-reach of the role of government which must be limited to that of a night watchman, not an owner of the life and body of the people.
12. The Party deeply respects and honours the armed government functionaries of Australia who protect us from harm. In order to increase this respect in the broader community for those who defend us, the Party will strive to improve the welfare of veterans even as

the accountability and transparency of the actions of currently employed armed functionaries is increased.

13. The Party notes that the Australian Constitution is largely an operational agreement between the States and not an agreement between citizens and the government. To advance liberty in Australia, the Party will consider progressing appropriate arrangements in the Constitution in consultation with the people – such as (a) a possible bill of inalienable rights and (b) Constitutional prohibitions on a state of emergency being imposed by any Australian government during peacetime (such a provision would allow states of high alert and response for natural disasters).
14. As part of its commitment to fight corruption, the Party will seek to restrict lobbying. It will progress legislation to treat money or material benefits obtained through political favours as undeclared taxable income. We expect all businesses to compete honestly in the marketplace, not unfairly through any political contacts.
15. The Party will create a foreign policy that advances the national interest. In doing so, we will re-define and, if necessary, restructure Australia’s relationship with international organisations to ensure independent control over policy by Australian governments at all times, including on such matters as the definition of a pandemic.

3. Membership

1. Full membership to the Party is open to all those who support its Aims and Objectives and are registered on the Commonwealth of Australia electoral roll and entitled to vote in elections for the Parliament of Australia.
2. A full member can:
 - i. attend and vote at AGMs of the Party;
 - ii. be elected to a formal position within the Party;
 - iii. seek pre-selection to stand as a candidate in any election the Party contests; and
 - iv. participate through the Party’s IT platform and feedback to candidates and elected members in policy development and other activities.
3. Full membership of the Party is perpetual as long as the fee is paid when membership fees fall due. The Party’s National Executive has the power to prescribe a membership fee and the duration of its applicability.
4. The Party may create, if considered appropriate, an Associate Membership for people not registered on the Commonwealth of Australia electoral roll and who are not entitled to vote in elections for the Parliament of Australia. If an Associate Membership is created, it will be free.
5. All Membership is to be applied for online and paid for using the Party’s digital platform, with alternative non-digital options made available where necessary and practicable.
6. All members will be enrolled to receive the Party’s newsletters or other information via email or other means.

3.1 Change of details or resignation

1. Members are required to inform the Party of any change of their address, email ID or phone number via the Party’s online portal or email. Not informing the Party in time may risk the member not receiving official Party notices (such as for an AGM or a notice inviting candidates).

2. A member may resign from membership of the Party by a letter/email of resignation addressed to the Secretary of the Party or through other processes prescribed by the Party's National Executive from time to time.

4. National Executive Committee

1. The National Executive Committee ("National Executive") of the Party shall comprise the following:
 - 1) President
 - 2) Vice President
 - 3) Secretary
 - 4) Treasurer
2. National Executive meetings may be held at appropriate intervals, no less than once in six months, in person or with the use of electronic technology. The minutes of any decisions taken are to be posted in an unalterable physical register maintained by the Secretary. Where physical signatures of participants are not feasible to obtain, such as with electronic meetings, references to correspondence that is stored in an unalterable internal data repository of the Party can be cited as proof of attendance.
3. The National Executive will exercise due diligence on all aspects of Party management and be jointly and severally liable for the Party's compliance with any relevant laws.
4. Where the Party advocates a policy that, if implemented, might personally benefit a National Executive member, the member would need to recuse himself or herself when such policy is considered.
5. Definitions:
 - a. A "term" in this Constitution is defined as the duration of an office-bearer's role which is three years for ordinary members of the National Executive and five years for the Founder, intended to overlap the terms of different National Executive Committees.
 - b. The "founding period" in this Constitution is defined as the duration commencing from the date of lodgement of the Party's application for registration with the Australian Electoral Commission (AEC) up until two years after the polling day of the first federal election in which the Party nominates its candidates.

4.1 The founding period and Founding National Executive Committee

1. Given the short duration from conceptualisation of the Party to the lodgement of its application for registration, it is impractical to convene an AGM to hold elections. The Founder of the Party may therefore nominate a Founding National Executive Committee ("Founding National Executive") to oversight the management of the Party during the founding period.
2. The initial Founding National Executive nominated by the Founder comprises the following:

i.	President and Founder	Peter Harris
ii.	Vice President	Peter Harris (Acting)
iii.	Secretary	Sanjeev Sabhlok
iv.	Treasurer	Irene Robinson
3. The Founder can replace members of the Founding National Executive at his discretion.

4. The functions of the Founding National Executive members are the same as the functions of the members of a general (elected) National Executive Committee, specified elsewhere.
5. The founding period will not be counted towards the terms of any future office bearers of the National Executive, including of the Founder.
6. The purpose of the founding period is to allow the Party to build the systems and processes necessary to undertake any establishment operations during the infancy of the Party, to expand membership and to organise the first Annual General Meeting (AGM) so that elections can be held.
7. The Founding National Executive can amend this Constitution with a three-fourth majority of its members, to better advance the objectives of the Party. This could include deepening internal democracy or clarifying the processes of the Constitution including any arrangements to create branches of the Party. Illustrative processes that the Founding National Executive could clarify include:
 - a. a Code of Conduct to ensure that National Executive members, office bearers and potential candidates of the Party are of good character; and
 - b. a disciplinary process for any party members elected to the Parliament who fail to publish a written and sufficient explanation in a prescribed format in a situation where their conscience vote is inconsistent with the party's preferred policy position.
8. A key responsibility of the Founding National Executive will be to:
 - a. organise the inaugural AGM and hold elections before the end of the founding period to the office bearer roles of the first National Executive; and
 - b. transfer responsibility for the management of the Party to the elected National Executive Committee.
9. The Founding National Executive will take steps to commission an IT platform that delivers the party's commitment to perpetually consult with the people. Given the nature and magnitude of such a project, such a platform can be developed in phases.

4.2 The role of office bearers of the National Executive Committee

1. The **Founder** of the Party, Peter Harris, shall be a member of the National Executive with voting rights in a capacity either as a prescribed office bearer or as an additional member, thus allowing for up to five members in the National Executive.
2. The Founder's term on the National Executive will be five years. He can choose to remain on the National Executive for another term without a requirement for election.
3. Should the Founder wish to remain on the National Executive beyond a second term, he will be required to seek re-election to the Founder's role at the appropriate AGM (with the limit of a maximum of five terms that commence after the founding period).
4. The Founder will comply with the Party's Code of Conduct. Should he become insolvent or otherwise breach the Code of Conduct, or become sick or otherwise incapable of undertaking his role, the National Executive will appoint one of the remaining members of the Founding National Executive Committee to the role of the Founder. Should no such person be available, the Founder's role on the National Executive will lapse.
5. Other members of the National Executive shall be eligible to be re-elected to such offices following the expiration of their terms of office, if re-nominated (in accordance with nomination procedures) and re-elected at an AGM of the Party, subject to a maximum of four terms for any member.

6. The role of the **President** (and **Vice President** in the absence of the President) is to chair Party meetings and represent the Party at official functions.
7. The **Secretary** shall be responsible for the day-to-day management of the Party in accordance with section 123 of the Electoral Act, such as the carrying out of the administration, and the conduct of the correspondence of the party. As manager of day-to-day duties, the Secretary will be the Party's contact for general election and enrolment matters, appointments of Party officials or to notify updates to the contact details for the Party or its office bearers. The Secretary shall also be responsible to for holding any AGM and Extraordinary General Meetings as appropriate.
8. The role of the **Treasurer** is to take responsibility for Party finances including fund-raising and payment of expenses.
9. To aid in its management of the Party, the National Executive may create and nominate temporary office bearer roles (such as a Joint Secretary) with or without partial voting rights. Such roles would lapse at the end of its term.

5. Other office bearers

1. A Registered Officer and Party Agent shall be nominated by the National Executive (including Founding National Executive) and shall not have any voting rights at the National Executive (only in that capacity).
2. The **Registered Officer's** role will be to nominate the Party's endorsed candidates to the AEC and also select either the Party's registered name or the Party's registered abbreviation or logo to be printed on ballot papers adjacent to the party's endorsed candidates.
3. In accordance with Section 140 of the Electoral Act, the Registered Officer will receive any formal notices about party registration, including reviews of a party's continued eligibility to remain registered from the AEC and attend to any requirements of the AEC to ensure the party complies with the Commonwealth Electoral Act 1918 and any regulations involving political parties.
4. The role of the **Party Agent** will be to lodge the Party's annual financial disclosure return and receive election funding on behalf of the Party.
5. Office bearers of the National Executive are eligible to hold the role of a Registered Officer or Party Agent.

6. Annual General Meeting

1. There is no requirement to hold an AGM during the founding period of the Party unless the National Executive wishes to merge with another Party or to dissolve the Party (as detailed elsewhere).
2. Election to the role of an office bearer of the National Executive is to take place at an appropriate AGM of the Party. Any full member of the Party is eligible to stand for election for any role of the National Executive, subject to the outcomes of any disciplinary process or compliance with any requirements of good character and demonstrated alignment with the Party's values and principles, as may be prescribed by the National Executive from time to time.
3. Nominations must be called for electronically through publication to members at least four (4) weeks before an AGM, to be received by the Secretary of the Party latest by two (2) weeks before an AGM.
4. All voting at an AGM or an Extraordinary General Meeting is to be held by secret ballot. Successful election to an office bearer role will be declared by the nominated candidate

achieving a simple majority of the valid votes cast. Where there is a tie, the President at the AGM will have an additional, deciding vote.

5. The Secretary of the Party may make such regulations for the calling of an AGM or Extraordinary General Meetings as may be appropriate to promote the objectives of the Party.
6. Except for consideration of merger of this Party with another one or the dissolution of the Party (for which the processes are provided elsewhere) an ordinary Annual General or Extraordinary General Meeting can only be held for voting purposes as the Party if a quorum of any three members of the National Executive plus twenty other general members is reached. No proxy voting is permitted.
7. A member of the Party may nominate and be elected for more than one position on the National Executive but upon successful election will be required to drop all positions except one, with the member, in each case of the dropped position/s, who secured the next highest vote, to be elected to the relevant position/s.
8. Subject to approval by an AGM or Extraordinary General Meeting, the Party may introduce digital methods of voting as and when such reliable technology becomes available.

7. Endorsement of candidates and operation of elected members in Parliament

1. Any full member of the party, subject to the outcomes of any relevant disciplinary process and subject to necessary declarations, probity checks or allegiance to the values and policy frameworks of the Party, in a form to be prescribed by the National Executive, will be eligible to nominate as a potential candidate for election to the Parliament of Australia from the Party's platform. The National Executive will advise the processes for pre-selection of candidates from time to time.
2. A candidate for election to the Parliament of Australia shall be deemed to be endorsed by the Party if their nomination to stand for election as a representative of the Party is publicly declared by the National Executive .
3. All endorsed candidates will be required to sign a Community Pact as prescribed by the Party as well as a legally binding declaration requiring them to resign from any elected Parliamentary seat should the outcome of any disciplinary process of the Party so require.
4. Allocation of the party's preferences at elections to the Parliament of Australia shall be determined by the National Executive of the Party.
5. The National Executive will provide binding guidance from time to time on how the elected members of the Party in the Parliament shall operate and how they shall elect the Parliamentary leader or nominate members to a Cabinet.

8. Adoption and amendments

1. For the first five years from the end of the founding period, the Constitution of the Party may be amended based upon the recommendation of the National Executive provided that any such amendment is approved by a simple majority of the Full Members voting at an AGM or an Extraordinary General Meeting.
2. After the first five years the simple majority rule above will be replaced with a two-third majority requirement.

3. Any minor or technical amendments to this Constitution to streamline or clarify the Party's processes and without changing the underlying intent of the relevant section can be made by National Executive with a simple majority. Any such change are to be tabled at the next AGM.

9. Merger

1. The Party may merge with another party with similar objectives in accordance with the conditions specified below.
2. Should the Party's financial assets fall below \$10,000 for a duration of more than 30 calendar days despite a call being made to members to donate, the National Executive of the Party can decide with a 2/3rd majority to merge with another party with similar objectives.
3. Where the Party possesses more than \$10,000 in funds, a merger proposal by the National Executive with another party must be considered at an Extraordinary General Meeting, with one month's advance notice given to Full Members. To be deemed to be approved, a proposed merger must receive:
 - a. a simple majority of votes from participating Full members in a physical ballot with not less than a tenth of the Party's Full Members on record participating or fifty Members (whichever is less); or
 - b. a simple majority of voters from participating Full members in a secure electronic ballot with not less than 15 per cent of the Party's Full members on record participating.
4. If the merger is effective, all assets, liabilities and debts of the party will be transferred to the new party.

10. Dissolution

1. Should the Party's financial assets fall below \$10,000 for a duration of more than 30 calendar days despite a call being made to members to donate, the National Executive of the Party can decide with a 2/3rd majority to dissolve the party.
2. Where the Party possesses more than \$10,000 in funds, a dissolution proposal by the National Executive with another party must be considered at an Extraordinary General Meeting.
3. At such a meeting, the Party will be considered to be dissolved if:
 - a. for a physical meeting, two-thirds of Full Members present elect to dissolve the Party with not less than 15% of the Full Members on record or seventy five of them (whichever is less) participating; or
 - b. for a secure electronic ballot, two-thirds of Full Members elect to dissolve the Party with not less than a quarter of Full Members on record participating.
4. In the case (3) above, full Members will be given at least two months advance notice of a proposal to disband.
5. Dissolution will be effective at whatever date the ballot may specify.
6. If, after the election to dissolve, all liabilities and debts have been satisfied, and remaining costs and fees with regards to the dissolution have been accounted for, there remains property belonging to the Party, that remainder shall be distributed by the National Executive to any organisation with broadly similar aims and objects as set out in this Constitution.