

Human rights for all people in Australia

The following resolution was adopted unanimously at the Fair Go For Pensioners (FGFP) Coalition Victoria annual general meeting on 20 November 2019. It is now policy of the Coalition.

PREAMBLE

Current laws for the protection of human rights in Australia are far from adequate with the failure by Australian Parliaments to introduce a *Human Rights Act* (legislative or statutory charter) and few legal protections of human rights in the Australian Constitution. Further, the common law (“judge-made law”) also only [protects a limited range of human rights](#).

It is past time that Australia either had a [Human Rights Act through the federal Parliament or through the Australian Constitution](#) . Promoting and respecting human rights is the conversation we need to have now not the further attacks, restrictions and infringements of our rights.

The following resolution draws on the work of the Melbourne Unitarian Peace Memorial Church also endorsing their resolution to “commit the church to campaign in the strongest possible way to defend our human rights and our democracy”.

The resolution

“This Annual General Meeting of Fair Go for Pensioners (FGFP) Coalition Victoria Incorporated considers the increasing attacks on human rights horrors of wars, unrest, hatreds and abuses throughout the world and the wanton disregard of our rights in Australia as of major concern.

“We vigorously oppose the Federal Government’s refusal to support the Uluru Statement from the Heart, attacks on low income workers, attacks on those on low incomes from social security, attacks on asylum seekers and those held in off-shore detention, decline in social services through government imposed austerity including homelessness services and public housing, on their refusal to increase Newstart Allowance or provide publicly funded and administered job creation programs, on their vicious attempts to destroy our unions and on their refusal to recognise the crisis of the climate emergency.

“All of these are attacks on our human rights, and we commit FGFP to campaign in the strongest possible ways to defend and protect our human rights and our democracy. We call on all political parties and all politicians therefore to express and give their ongoing support for a Charter of Human Rights for Australia”.