

# AUSTRALIA'S CANDIDATE TO THE COMMITTEE ON THE RIGHTS OF PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES (CRPD) 2023-2026 | ROSEMARY KAYESS

## AUSTRALIA SEEKS YOUR GOVERNMENT'S SUPPORT FOR THE ELECTION OF ROSEMARY KAYESS TO THE COMMITTEE ON THE RIGHTS OF PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES

Australia is committed to advancing human rights globally, including the rights of persons with disabilities. Men, women and children have the right to fundamental freedoms and to live their lives with dignity.

Australia considers the CRPD as critical in promoting the rights of persons with disabilities and is committed to increasing the awareness of these rights and taking practical steps to enable people with disabilities to participate fully in society.

Rosemary Kayess is supported by the Australian Government and Australian disabled people's organisations.

**"I AM COMMITTED TO THE PRINCIPLES AND STANDARDS OF THE CRPD AND WORKING CONSTRUCTIVELY WITH STATES PARTIES TO REALISE THE RIGHTS OF PEOPLE WITH DISABILITY."**

— ROSEMARY KAYESS



Rosemary Kayess is an accomplished human rights lawyer, researcher and academic. She was the recipient of the Australian Human Rights Medal in 2019. Her work nationally and internationally has advanced Australia's agenda for a socially-inclusive society.

Rosemary is the current Chair of the Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities. She is a Senior Academic in the Faculty of Law at the University of NSW, where she has taught international human rights law and anti-discrimination law for the past 15 years. She has advised and researched on numerous projects on human rights, disability and the implementation of the CRPD in Australia, Asia Pacific and Europe.

Rosemary is also a Visiting Professor at the Centre for Disability Law and Policy at the National University of Ireland (Galway). As a member of the faculty for the annual International Disability Law Summer School, Rosemary regularly teaches international human rights law to students with disability, disability advocates, bureaucrats and other stakeholders from around the globe.

Rosemary has extensive experience with the CRPD. She was a designated specialist in the Australian Government delegation that contributed to the development of the Convention.



*"I have lived experience of disability and the experience of my accident and the sudden change in my life as a result of the spinal cord injury marked the beginning of a continuous enquiry of knowledge and understanding of disability from the philosophical, theoretical, legal and practical perspectives."*

*"My experience as a woman with disability has increased my consciousness of the compounding effects that personal attributes and circumstances have on an individual's life and opportunities. I am particularly motivated and interested in ensuring that there is strong leadership of women with disability on the Committee and at its highest level."*

*"This has been informed further by my work with Australia's First Peoples as well as my work with people with disabilities from the Pacific Islands and Asia."*

*"As a result I have a keen understanding of the importance of the implementation of the CRPD and in particular Article 32 on international cooperation as well as the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals."*

— ROSEMARY KAYESS



## DISABILITY SECTOR EXPERIENCE

2021-2022	<b>Committee of Treaty Body Chairpersons</b> Chair
2021- present	<b>Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities</b> Chair
2019- 2020	<b>Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities</b> Vice-Chair
2020-present	<b>Royal Commission into Violence, Abuse, Neglect and Exploitation of People with Disability</b> Expert Member, Strategic Engagement Committee
1995-present	<b>Australian Centre for Disability Law</b> Chairperson
2015-present	<b>World Bank</b> Expert Focus Group on Non-Discrimination and Disability
2013-2017	<b>National Mental Health Commission</b> Core Reference Group - Seclusion and Restraint
2010-2015	<b>Disability Policy Research Working Group Steering Committee</b> Council of Australian Governments
2009-2015	<b>Department Foreign Affairs and Trade</b> Disability Reference Group
2013-2014	<b>Australian Law Reform Commission</b> Advisory Group on Equality, Capacity and Disability
2006-2008	<b>National Disability and Carers Ministerial Advisory Committee</b>
2004-2008	<b>Disability Studies and Research Institute</b> Chairperson
2004-2006	<b>Department Family &amp; Community Services</b> NGO Representative (Ministerial appointment) Australian Delegation United Nations Ad Hoc Committee
2004	<b>Australian Human Rights Commission Disability Rights Unit</b> Senior Policy Officer
1996-2000	<b>Disability Council of NSW</b> (Ministerial appointment)

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