

Human Rights Council – 44th session

Interactive Dialogue with the Special Rapporteur on contemporary forms of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance

15 July 2020

Australian Statement

We thank the Special Rapporteur for her presentation.

Australia reiterates its steadfast commitment to the global fight against racism, racial discrimination and xenophobia, in all its forms. Hateful and divisive rhetoric has no place in Australia or anywhere in the world, online or offline.

Australia is a proud liberal democracy, governed by the rule of law, with a resolute commitment to upholding our diverse and cohesive multicultural society.

Digital inclusion is increasingly important for social and economic participation, health, and promoting culture and language. We must all work hard to ensure racial and ethnic minorities, and indigenous peoples, are not discriminated against in the design and implementation of emerging digital technologies.

Australia rejects all forms of racial discrimination, particularly including Nazism and neo-Nazism. Eradicating racism must be a common priority for the whole international community. We all must do more to adopt comprehensive approaches to address racism, and end the impunity too many perpetrators enjoy in many parts of the world. Our efforts must engage civil society and national human rights institutions.

We ask the Special Rapporteur for examples of effective co-design and co-implementation of measures which mitigate the risk of racially discriminatory use and design of emerging digital technologies?

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