

- [Going Places with Ernie Dingo](#)
- [Living Black](#)
- [The Point](#)



22 AUG 2018 - 11:51AM

Stop 'endlessly discussing' Indigenous recognition, social justice commissioners say

Tweet

Recommend 328



The current Indigenous social justice commissioner and her predecessors want Canberra to act on constitutional recognition.

June Oscar said that over 25 years every social justice commissioner has highlighted the need for constitutional reform to address human rights issues. (AAP)

0

2 Aug 2018 - 11:33 AM UPDATED 22 Aug 2018 - 11:51 AM

Tweet

Recommend 328

Australian politicians should be pressured to bring about Indigenous constitutional recognition within the next five years, all past and present Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander social justice commissioners have said.

The current commissioner June Oscar and her four predecessors Mick Gooda, Tom Calma, William Jonas and Mick Dodson said it was time to stop "endlessly discussing" reform options.

Their submission, to the joint select committee on constitutional recognition, recommended regular parliamentary motions to hold federal politicians "accountable to the Australian people, by indicating whether they support removing racism from the constitution or not".

It strongly supports the establishment of a truth and reconciliation royal commission.

The commissioners also called for citizen participation in Senate estimates to achieve greater accountability for services to Indigenous Australians.

"We must move on from endlessly discussing the potential reform options and committing to action that will allow Indigenous Australians to take a rightful place in our nation," Dr Oscar said.

"We want to see constitutional recognition and a voice and a truth telling process being committed to by the Parliament. We are at this point because of a lack of political leadership to adequately respond to the many processes that have taken place. What we now need is strong political leadership to take this forward."

[\[/nitv/nitv-news/article/2018/08/04/how-long-do-we-have-wait-yolngu-leaders-demand-recognition-ancient-sovereignty?cid=inbody:stop-'endlessly-discussing'-indigenous-recognition-social-justice-commissioners-say \]](#)



How long do we have to wait? Yolngu leaders demand recognition of ancient sovereignty
Senior Yolngu leaders say they've grown old waiting for the original sovereign leaders of the country to be recognised.

Last year, Prime Minister Malcolm Turnbull rejected the proposal for a constitutionally enshrined "voice" to parliament representing Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.

The Australian government said it did not believe that the idea was desirable or capable of winning acceptance in a national referendum.

The parliamentary committee has since heard that there is broad support for the concept of an Indigenous voice to parliament but no firm agreement on "how a voice should be established, what its structure should be and how it should operate".

The committee's final report is due on November 29.

[\[/nitv/article/2018/08/05/comment-constitutional-reform-must-make-local-indigenous-voices-heard?cid=inbody:stop-'endlessly-discussing'-indigenous-recognition-social-justice-commissioners-say \]](#)



Comment: Constitutional reform must make local Indigenous voices heard
We are at a crucial moment in the debate for constitutional recognition of Indigenous peoples.

[\[/nitv/nitv-news/explainer/what-truth-telling-and-why-does-it-matter-indigenous-australians?cid=inbody:stop-'endlessly-discussing'-indigenous-recognition-social-justice-commissioners-say \]](#)



What is 'Truth-Telling' and why does it matter to Indigenous Australians?
How do you hold a commission into telling the truth?

[\[/nitv/nitv-news/article/2018/07/30/overwhelming-support-indigenous-voice-parliament?cid=inbody:stop-'endlessly-discussing'-indigenous-recognition-social-justice-commissioners-say \]](#)



'Overwhelming' support for Indigenous voice to parliament

The Joint Select Parliamentary Committee on Constitutional Recognition has presented its interim report to the Parliament with a large majority of submissions supporting an Indigenous Voice to Parliament

Recommend 328

Tweet

0