



An Invitation to share your views on Australia's future

The Independent and Peaceful Australia Network (IPAN) is a national network of community, peace and faith organisations, environment groups, trade unions and individuals concerned about the social, economic, environmental, military and political costs of Australia's involvement in US-led wars. IPAN advocates an independent and peaceful Australian foreign policy.

IPAN is conducting a broad People's Inquiry examining the costs and consequences of Australia's involvement in US led wars and the US alliance.

The Inquiry aims to give a voice to the community and increase public discussion on the social, economic, financial, environmental and political impacts. It seeks to inform and promote debate in the Australian community.

The national Inquiry invites organisations and community members to make submissions on their views and concerns. We also invite submissions offering alternatives for the future. We are keen to develop a coherent and persuasive case for an independent and peaceful Australian foreign policy, and military and defence spending priorities.

The Inquiry deals with 8 key areas:

- Impact on First Nation Peoples
- Social and Community (Health, Education, Community & Welfare, Housing)
- Union and Workers' Rights (Job security, workers' rights, defence and sustainable industries)
- Environment and Climate Change
- Military and Defence
- Foreign Policy
- Economic
- Political including Democratic Rights

For more information including Inquiry Background Papers, Terms of Reference and how to submit go to our website <https://independentpeacefulaustralia.com.au/>

You can access our first webinar here [**Australia-US Alliance Webinar Series: Environment & Community**](#)

The next webinar is on March 25th. Please rsvp via [**Zoom**](#) for the second in a series of Australia-US webinars - '**Defence & Foreign Policy**'. *This invitation extends to all your communities and networks, registration essential.*

We are also offering you/your organisation a face-to-face or online presentation about the Inquiry and how to submit. If you are interested, please feel free to contact us to arrange a time.

Submissions to the Inquiry will be reviewed by a panel of experts chaired by lawyer and investigative journalist, Kellie Tranter, and used to prepare a report on the impact to Australians, of the military alliance with the United States and involvement in wars of the past 70 years, from Korea to Afghanistan (where Australian personnel are still deployed). This report will be widely promoted and publicised in the community, the media, in parliament, amongst politicians and public figures.

With the escalating US-China tensions, the Inquiry report will share your views and suggestions for alternatives to our current predicament.

A submission can be one paragraph or up to 5,000 words. Please also pass this on to anyone whom you think may be interested. *Deadline for submissions is July 30*, however please submit asap.

We very much hope that you will be able to fit this important task into your busy schedule.

Please see attached flyer re upcoming zoom, together with a PDF of this letter, and a general flyer about the Public Inquiry. Future webinars will be advertised on our website.

With best wishes,

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IPAN-Victoria Representatives
On behalf of the Independent and Peaceful Australia Network