

# 2025 FEDERAL ELECTION CANDIDATE QUESTIONNAIRE



EXECUTIVE  
COUNCIL OF  
AUSTRALIAN  
JEWRY

Where do MACNAMARA candidates stand on issues affecting the Jewish community?





Liberal candidate  
Benson Saulo



Labor candidate  
Josh Burns



One Nation candidate  
Sean Rubin

**Questions 1-15** cover Domestic Policy and items emerging from the 15-point action plan to defeat antisemitism that was announced at the Antisemitism Summit on 20 Feb 2025

**Questions 16-22** cover Foreign Policy



Liberal Party answers adopted by Liberal candidate Benson Saulo



Labor Party answers adopted by Labor candidate Josh Burns



## Domestic Policy

### Q1: National Taskforce

Would you urge the next government to establish a national taskforce led by a single minister to coordinate and mobilise all relevant intelligence and law enforcement agencies in the fight against antisemitism, with independent oversight by an Inspector who would report to the Parliamentary Joint Committee on Intelligence and Security?

The Coalition will create a new, dedicated Antisemitism Taskforce led by the Australian Federal Police (AFP); incorporating the Australian Security Intelligence Organisation (ASIO), the Australian Criminal Intelligence Commission (ACIC), the Australian Transaction Reports and Analysis Centre (AUSTRAC), the Australian Border Force (ABF) and state police.

We will also issue a new Ministerial Direction to the AFP to prioritise addressing antisemitism, including any outstanding complaints and unsolved crimes against the Jewish community since 7 October 2023 including doxxing, public display of terrorist symbols, incitement, harassment, and other offences. This would include re-evaluation of any decisions to not proceed with charges for these offences. We will direct the Antisemitism Taskforce to refer any visa holders involved in acts of antisemitism for immediate cancellation and deportation.

### Q2: Policing, intelligence and law enforcement

Would you advocate that the next government establish recommended uniform policing guidelines, and require Commonwealth intelligence and law enforcement personnel to be trained in identifying antisemitism?

The Coalition will create a new, dedicated Antisemitism Taskforce led by the Australian Federal Police (AFP); incorporating the Australian Security Intelligence Organisation (ASIO), the Australian Criminal Intelligence Commission (ACIC), the Australian Transaction Reports and Analysis Centre (AUSTRAC), the Australian Border Force (ABF) and state police.

As part of this work, we will ensure the taskforce is equipped to identify antisemitism and the symbols of antisemitic terrorist groups. As part of its national leadership role, the taskforce will share its expertise with state and territory counterparts to promote a consistent national law enforcement approach.

### In lieu of specific answers to questions 1-14, Josh Burns MP has provided the ECAJ with the following letter dated 20 April 2025:

For the past 18 months, our community has been challenged and faced a world that we never thought would happen to our generation. Jewish communities around the world have watched with fear and love for our families and friends in Israel, while we faced a crisis of antisemitism here in our beloved Australia.

As one of the few Jewish members of our federal Parliament, this has been hard and personal. It has been the most difficult time in my adult life. I have received daily abuse and vilification - but despite all of it, I get up and go to work. Because being a proud Jew means that this is not something I can turn away from, it is a challenge we need to face together.

I take my responsibility as a voice for our community inside government incredibly seriously. I have worked to achieve outcomes for our community alongside our communal leadership. We have got things done together. The Jewish community needs a seat at the table and through me, they have got exactly that to ensure that their concerns and policy suggestions are heard.

When 600 Jewish members of our community were doxxed and their personal details were published online, I called my colleagues and said we need to send a message that this is unacceptable. I went on national radio and publicly called for doxxing to be criminalised. I was the first MP to do so.

It is crucial to have a National Taskforce created the one person who is well educated, fast thinking, and experienced with the nation's intelligence and law enforcement agencies. Our current methods are outdated, insecure and have made no advancements in the last decade.

We are seeing an influx of inconsistent governing, policing, arresting, sentencing amongst police, intelligence and law enforcement. With advanced technology, better education, consistent training across all agencies to have a unified respect for procedures and laws in place. It is time a national database is created to for all agencies across Australia report antisemitism, hate and other serious crimes. It all starts with training the fresh recruits/ refreshed training of current members annually.



Liberal Party answers adopted by Liberal candidate Benson Saulo



Labor Party answers adopted by Labor candidate Josh Burns



## Domestic Policy

### Q3: Legislative reform

Do you believe that the incitement and other offences prescribed in Subdivision C of Division 80 of the Criminal Code (Cth), the postal and carriage service offences prescribed in Divisions 471 and 474 of the Criminal Code and the minimum sentences mandated under section 16AAA of the Crimes Act 1914 (Cth) are a sufficient legislative response by the Federal government to address the recent spate of antisemitic incidents in Australia?

If the number and severity of serious antisemitic incidents in Australia do not return to their pre-October 7, 2023 levels within 12 months, would you support the next government in legislating to proscribe the intentional promotion of hatred on the basis of race, religion, sexual orientation, gender identity or disability, without the addition of further elements to the offence?

Australia is facing a crisis of antisemitism, and the rise in antisemitic incidents in our communities is completely unacceptable.

Peter Dutton and the Coalition have led the way in passing legislation through the Parliament in response to the antisemitism crisis in Australia, with the Albanese Government being forced to agree to our measures, despite having a long history of opposition to mandatory minimum sentences.

The measures passed by the Coalition are an important step in combating the antisemitism crisis, but the lack of proactive leadership from the Albanese Government in addressing the antisemitism crisis remains an ongoing concern.

The Coalition has adopted the ECAJ's 15 point plan to combat antisemitism as part of our approach. If elected to Government, we will continue to consult with the Jewish community and consider any further measures needed to combat antisemitism where needed.

Doxxing is now legislated in federal law as a criminal offence. In 2023, when Neo-Nazis stood on the steps of Victorian Parliament and performed the Nazi salute, I went on national media and said we need to outlaw this. I was the first MP to do so.

I worked with our government, the Victorian and NSW governments to ban the salute and hate symbols. Now it's federal and state law.

In 2022, I co-founded the Parliamentary Friends of the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance (IHRA) with my colleagues Julian Leeser MP and Allegra Spender MP. Combatting antisemitism should never be political, and we need to work together across the aisle to protect the community. Our first task was writing to every single Australian university advocating for the adoption of the IHRA working definition of antisemitism to educate and guide university leadership in handling a growing rise in antisemitic discourse on our campuses.

Over the summer, as chair of the Parliamentary Joint Committee on Human Rights, I led an inquiry into antisemitism at Australian universities. We can't legislate away racism and hatred, but we can and must begin the difficult and detailed work of changing the culture at our universities. As a result of our inquiry, we now have 10 recommendations on the table and we have already seen 39 universities across the country adopt a consistent definition of antisemitism. We are seeing major shifts in policies, and attitudes of university leadership across the nation, and they will be held to account if they fail to protect Jewish students and staff again.

The current Federal Government has made their stance very clear, the rapid rise in antisemitism. Increased entry to ethnic/religion majority, increase protesting of Islamist ideology. The Greens, Labor party have little to no interest in reducing or stopping the rise of antisemitism. The liberal party acknowledges the problem, still have no concrete action plan for when they are in power. Pauline Hanson's one nation has stood publicly with a plan to enforce the Australian laws amending stronger action for the rise of antisemitism and stronger sentencing/immediate deportation.



Liberal Party answers adopted by Liberal candidate Benson Saulo

Labor Party answers adopted by Labor candidate Josh Burns

## Domestic Policy

### Q4: National system to record hate-motivated crime

Would you advocate that the next government take urgent steps to introduce and maintain a uniform national system, similar to those operating in the US, UK and Canada, for classifying and recording different categories of hate crimes, whether motivated by race, religion, sexual orientation, gender, gender identity or disability, and to train law enforcement personnel to administer the system?

The Coalition supports the National Cabinet’s decision to establish a National Database to track antisemitic crime and other antisemitic incidents and behaviours. The Commonwealth will work with States and Territories on the development of the Database. Crucially, a Dutton Coalition Government will not use the database to admire the problem - we will take real action to address the crisis of antisemitism in Australia.

We will:

- Create a new, dedicated Antisemitism Taskforce led by the Australian Federal Police (AFP); incorporating the Australian Security Intelligence Organisation (ASIO), the Australian Criminal Intelligence Commission (ACIC), the Australian Transaction Reports and Analysis Centre (AUSTRAC), the Australian Border Force (ABF) and state police;
- Issue a new Ministerial Direction to the AFP to prioritise addressing antisemitism, including any outstanding complaints and unsolved crimes against the Jewish community since 7 October 2023 including doxxing, public display of terrorist symbols, incitement, harassment, and other offences. This would include re-evaluation of any decisions to not proceed with charges for these offences;
- Direct the Antisemitism Taskforce to refer any visa holders involved in acts of antisemitism for immediate cancellation and deportation; and
- Amend the section 501 character provisions of the Migration Act to ensure this antisemitic conduct is captured by the law, and applies retrospectively for all acts of hatred towards the Jewish community since the 7 October 2023 terrorist attacks against Israel.

When Adass was attacked in December, I worked alongside the ECAJ to secure an additional \$32 million in security funding for CSG in the immediate aftermath. For weeks I worked alongside the Adass leadership to support them to develop plans for the rebuild of their shule. We then funded, in this year’s Budget, \$30 million for the rebuild of the shule. We have seen synagogues burnt down in history, but I knew how important it was to send a message that this sort of terror will not be tolerated in Australia, and we will help the community rebuild.

Government takes time, but by having a seat at the table we were able to make sure the support was there. I have secured over \$70 million in security funding for our community to keep our schools, institutions and synagogues safe.

I advocated for and helped establish the Special Envoy to Combat antisemitism role which is now working directly with government, the public service and across civil society. We established Special Operation AVALITE as a joint agency operation with the Australian Federal Police, and ASIO to respond and investigate antisemitic threats to our community.

Police commissioners from all jurisdictions have established a dedicated antisemitism coordination group with deputy commissioners from each police force. The group meets monthly to share information, intelligence and where appropriate, use existing national arrangements to assist with both active investigations and proactive operations that may transcend borders.

The National Cabinet agreed to establish a National Database to track antisemitic incidents and behaviours, and the Standing Council of Attorneys-General agreed to begin work on a national database covering all hate crimes and incidents.

There has been an increase in wasteful spending by the current and previous governments in the last decade. It has seen Australia fall far behind other countries in defense, technology, education and wealth. Crime unsolved rate is extremely high in every state of Australia, I believe that is partly due to the insufficient resources available to all departments. A national database is crucial to how quickly an offender or offenders are caught, education and training regularly is key to success of the programs.

When entering Australia every non-citizen should be fingerprinted, retina scanned as they do in the USA.



Liberal Party answers adopted by Liberal candidate Benson Saulo



Labor Party answers adopted by Labor candidate Josh Burns



## Domestic Policy

### Q5: Education against antisemitism

Would you advocate that the next government:

- (a) make it a requirement via the national curriculum that the States and Territories include education against contemporary forms of antisemitism within their curricula, in addition to the study of the Holocaust?
- (b) run a public awareness and advertising campaign to help Australians understand the ideologies behind violent antisemitism and the societal harms they cause?
- (c) introduce a mandatory antisemitism education program for Federal personnel in law enforcement, the judiciary, the health sector and other sectors, as required, which could be adapted by State and Territory governments for their personnel?
- (d) develop and publish an Australian government equivalent of the Canadian government's Handbook on the IHRA Working Definition of Antisemitism?
- (e) roll out key education materials on antisemitism including a handbook on how employees and vocational trainees can protect their right not to be subjected to antisemitism in the workplace?

The former Coalition Government ensured the latest version of the Australian Curriculum included compulsory content on the Holocaust. We also invested in the establishment of several Holocaust museums to ensure students across Australia have access to important historical resources and education material.

A Dutton Coalition Government is determined to ensure young Australians are supported by a knowledge-rich, common sense national curriculum aligned with international best practice which should address antisemitism in all of its forms.

A Coalition Government will consider the most effective ways to raise awareness and educate Australians about the evils of antisemitism, which may include an advertising campaign, grants and ensuring the Australian Curriculum is fit for purpose. The Coalition wants to see every schoolchild visit a Holocaust Museum as one measure to educate Australians about the harms of antisemitism. If elected we will provide \$19 million to Australian Holocaust museums to support their expansion and to commemorate the victims of Hamas's terrorist attack on Israel on 7 October 2023.

This funding is inclusive of \$8.5 million for the Sydney Jewish Museum, \$3.5 million for Queensland Holocaust Museum, \$2 million for the Holocaust Institute of Western Australia's Education Centre, and \$5 million for specific October 7 commemorations and exhibits more generally.

An elected Dutton Government will provide \$180,000 from a revitalised Safer Communities Fund (SCF) to support 'Courage to Care', an initiative of the Holocaust Institute of WA aimed at teaching students to stand up against antisemitism. Run as both incursions and excursions, this curriculum-aligned program uses the lessons of history – including acclaimed speakers, some of them Holocaust survivors – to teach tolerance and create awareness of the dangers of discrimination, racism and prejudice.

A Dutton Coalition Government will develop guidance for the Australian context based on the IHRA working definition of antisemitism. This guidance will be published, and a Dutton Coalition will make it clear that we expect our institutions - including our universities - to implement this approach.

We established the strongest ever hate speech laws in Australia's history - making it a federal crime to incite violence against another. The laws I have worked on, give our community a much stronger shield, but we cannot simply legislate away bigotry and ignorance. It takes complicated and difficult work to bring civil society with us.

Education is vital - In 2021 I co-wrote an opinion piece with former treasurer Josh Frydenberg in the Age for International Holocaust Remembrance Day demonstrating the bipartisan approach which is needed to ensure the lessons of the past are not forgotten. I stand by that today.

I have worked alongside my colleagues to secure funds for Holocaust Museums across the country, including \$4.4 million to build a National Holocaust Education Centre in Canberra. When schools from across Australia come and visit the nation's capital they will also go and learn about the dangers of hatred, antisemitism and bigotry. The Jewish community is proud, strong and resilient. Our grandparents came to this country fleeing persecution and we contributed immensely across business, arts, education and politics. The story of the Jewish community must not be defined by hatred and antisemitism. We need to celebrate Jewish life and culture.

Ever since I was first elected I have supported the establishment of a Jewish Arts Quarter in Elsternwick. Just like Lygon St is for the Italian Community and Lonsdale St is for the Greek Community, JAQ on Selwyn St will be a home for Jewish culture, life, arts and music for the broader public to enjoy. We will invest \$18 million to the Jewish Arts Quarter because investing in Jewish life and culture sends the strongest possible message - hate will not win.

Being a voice inside governments means I am able to raise concerns and advocate on behalf of our community at the highest levels. I have been able to deliver real outcomes to protect our community. But we clearly have more work to do. We saw outcomes from the university inquiry, and I would like to continue this work in the healthcare and arts sector. We also need to have a look at another area where antisemitism is left unchecked and that is social media.

Antisemitism is not a political issue for me. I have always stood with members from all sides of politics to fight for our community, and I will continue to do that. Having a seat at the table to advocate for the needs of our community is vital and that's what I am committed to.

Education is vital to Australia's democracy; basic education has been let go in place for wokeness. We are committed to bring back the basic math, English, science and history. Reading, writing, arithmetic and discipline. It is vital for every student to know about the holocaust, visit a holocaust center, learn about antisemitism, racism and what causes wars with mass casualties. Australia day is under threat by extremists, for the very reason of uneducated people. Businesses will be required to include an antisemitism clause in their documents for employees and companies.

## Domestic Policy

### Q6: Universities

Would you advocate that the next government make it a condition of receiving Federal funding that each university:

- (a) bans encampments on university grounds in order to protect the psychosocial safety and physical safety of staff and students?
- (b) bans the disruption of lectures and tutorials by protesters?
- (c) exercises the responsibilities of a publisher of all student publications that receive university funding?
- (d) prevents external organisations or individuals from orchestrating protest activities on campuses? and
- (e) disclose by line all sources of funding from foreign governments and foundations with links to foreign governments or to listed terrorist organisations?

Everyone has a right to be safe on a university campus including Jewish staff and students. The Coalition has adopted a zero tolerance of antisemitism including on university campuses.

Following 7 October 2023, shockingly an antisemitism crisis erupted on university campuses. The Coalition strongly condemned the protests, encampments, classroom invasions, building occupations, the menacing of students by extremist protestors including members of Hizb-ut Tahrir, and other conduct including unlawful activity which drove so much hate and incitement towards Jewish Australians.

The Coalition has a comprehensive plan to combat antisemitism across Australia's universities including the establishment of a Commission of Inquiry into Anti-Semitism at Australian Universities to be led by an eminent jurist.

In addition, under the Criminal Code, it is an offence to finance terrorism where a person intentionally collects or provides money and is reckless about whether the money will be used to facilitate or engage in a terrorist act.

A Dutton Coalition Government will ensure that our law enforcement and intelligence agencies, including the Australian Federal Police and the Australian Transaction Reports and Analysis Centre (AUSTRAC) are equipped to detect terrorism financing and prosecute individuals involved in these crimes.

**In lieu of specific answers to questions 1–14, the ALP has referred to the following letter from the Prime Minister dated 20 March 2025:**



20 MAR 2025

Reference: MC25-024823

Dear Mr Aghion and Mr Ryvchin,

Thank you for your letter dated 28 February 2025 regarding the Plan of Action resulting from the Sky News Antisemitism Summit.

I would like to reiterate my public statements - antisemitism has no place in Australia and I unequivocally condemn it. Every Australian, no matter their race or religion, should be able to enjoy their life in any Australian community, without prejudice or discrimination.

We are acting strongly to combat incidents of antisemitism by introducing a range of measures across government to support the Jewish community. The Government has criminalised doxxing and created criminal offences for publicly displaying and trading in Nazi and terrorist organisation symbols, performing the Nazi salute in a public place, and dealing with violent extremist material. We have also enacted the Criminal Code Amendment (Hate Crimes) Act 2025 to strengthen and expand criminal offences relating to advocating or threatening force or violence against groups, members of groups, or close associates, or their property or places of worship. This landmark reform to strengthen hate speech laws is the toughest law Australia has ever had against hate crimes.

Universities, Tafe are the pivotal starting point of any young adult life. When accepting a course, going through orientation, students are already given materials to sign with agreement policies in place. It's a different story with academics, those employed with universities and funding given. An induction for students, contractors and staff with the inclusion of a ban on protesting, camping, publications, extremist ideology, antisemitism and non-education materials to be on Tafe or University grounds and publications. Those who are non-Australians will be deported; funding will be reviewed on a case basis and federal agencies will investigate where fundings are coming from.



Liberal Party answers adopted by Liberal candidate Benson Saulo



Labor Party answers adopted by Labor candidate Josh Burns



## Domestic Policy

### Q7: Universities

Would you advocate that the next government:

(a) conduct a judicial inquiry into antisemitism at Australian universities, including an investigation into whether there has been foreign funding of student protests and, if there has been such funding, the recipients and the extent of that funding?

(b) legislate to overcome restrictions on universities under enterprise bargaining agreements in terminating the employment of, or taking disciplinary action against, academics who misconduct themselves, so that Australian universities have the same legal rights as US universities to fire or discipline academics?

(c) tighten the regulatory framework with respect to foreign interference at universities? and

(d) otherwise adopt the recent recommendations made by the Parliamentary Joint Committee on Human Rights concerning antisemitism at Australian universities?

As outlined above, a Dutton Coalition Government will establish a Commission of Inquiry into Antisemitism at Australian Universities. Without limiting the findings of a Commission of Inquiry, we would expect to act on a range of issues of concern already identified.

Universities should have robust policies in place to manage foreign interference risks in an increasingly fraught strategic environment.

The University Foreign Interference Taskforce was established by the former Coalition Government in 2019 to ensure universities are appropriately managing and combating threats of foreign interference in the national interest. If this Taskforce is not operating as intended, we will strengthen it in Government.

A Dutton Coalition Government will consider advice from our national security and intelligence agencies on any reforms that may be required to combat foreign interference risks threatening our national interest.

The Government I lead will not tolerate crimes that undermine Australia's security or our inclusive way of life. We established Special Operation AVALITE as a joint agency operation with the Australian Federal Police and Australian Security Intelligence Organisation to respond to and investigate high impact, high harm matters to provide high value effect towards the prevention of antisemitism.

Further, police commissioners from all jurisdictions have established a dedicated antisemitism coordination group with Deputy Commissioners from each police force. The group meets monthly to share information, intelligence and, where appropriate, use existing national arrangements to assist with both active investigations and proactive operations that may transcend state borders. These initiatives are in addition to the cooperation that occurs through the Joint Counter-Terrorism Teams in every state and territory, comprising the AFP, ASIO and state law enforcement agencies.

Under the auspices of Special Operation A VALITE, the AFP has arrested 5 individuals on a number of charges including public display of hate symbols. These arrests are in addition to the significant investigative work of state and territory police leading to the arrest of hundreds of individuals.

As you will be aware, I announced funding of \$32.5 million on 8 December 2024 to your organisation to further enhance security at Jewish community sites including synagogues and schools. This funding is in addition to the \$25 million grant announced in October 23, and funding for Jewish community sites under the Government's \$50 million Securing Faith-Based Places grant program.

My Government will provide \$30 million for the restoration of the Adass Israel Synagogue and community centre in Ripponlea, Victoria.

Pauline Hanson One Nation has policies in place to tighten Australia's defense, increase it funding. End the student visa loopholes, reintroduce temporary protection visas. We are pursuing urgent reform to foreign ownership, funding and persuasion towards Australian interest like universities. These are all National Interests that must be protected from foreign interference.





Liberal Party answers adopted by Liberal candidate Benson Saulo



Labor Party answers adopted by Labor candidate Josh Burns



## Domestic Policy

### Q8: Hate preachers

8. Would you advocate that the next government legislate to revoke the charitable status of, and terminate all government funding to, religious and other charitable institutions which promote hatred on the basis of race, religion, sexual orientation, gender identity or disability; display Nazi or terrorist symbols?

Peter Dutton and the Coalition have led the way in passing legislation through the Parliament in response to the antisemitism crisis in Australia, with the Albanese Government being forced to agree to our measures for mandatory minimum sentences for terrorism offences and publicly displaying prohibited Nazi or terrorist organisation symbols, and increasing the maximum penalty for publicly displaying a prohibited Nazi or terrorist organisation symbol, or performing the Nazi salute, to 5 years.

This is despite Labor having a long history of opposition to mandatory minimum sentences. An elected Coalition Government would work with the Australian Charities and Not for Profit Commission (ACNC) to ensure that all registered charities are complying with their strict governance and external conduct obligations under Division 35 of the ACNC Act.

Senator James Paterson has previously called for government funding to organisations that espouse antisemitic views and undermine Australia's social cohesion to immediately be rescinded. The Coalition will not hesitate to do so if elected to Government.

### Q9: Charities spreading hate

9. Would you advocate that the next government take strong new measures to closely scrutinise the source and end use of funds received by charities in order to ensure that they are not using funds to support terrorism or to carry out activities outside of their charitable purposes?

Under the Criminal Code, it is an offence to finance terrorism where a person intentionally collects or provides money and is reckless about whether the money will be used to facilitate or engage in a terrorist act.

A Dutton Coalition Government will ensure that our law enforcement and intelligence agencies, including the Australian Federal Police and the Australian Transaction Reports and Analysis Centre (AUSTRAC) are equipped to detect terrorism financing and prosecute individuals involved in these crimes.

We will also provide funding of up to \$1.2 million for security upgrades to the current buildings due to reopen this year. This is in addition to the \$250,000 we funded towards the replacement and restoration of Torah Scrolls housed in the Synagogue. This funding decision will be reflected in next week's Budget.

On 21 January 2025, I convened a meeting of National Cabinet, where there was agreement to establish a National Database to track antisemitic crime and other antisemitic incidents and behaviours, to better inform and coordinate responses to these incidents. Further to this, on 21 February, the Standing Council of Attorneys-General agreed to commence work on a national database covering all hate crimes and incidents.

We have also commissioned a study into Antisemitism, Islamophobia, racism and the experience of First Nations people in the university sector, led by the Race Discrimination Commissioner, Mr Giridharan Sivaraman. In December 2024, the Australian Human Rights Commission (AHRC) delivered an interim report to update Government on the project's progress, which is publicly available on the AHRC website.

The final report will be delivered in June 2025. In addition, on 29 October 2024, we referred Antisemitism at Australian universities to the Parliamentary Joint Committee on Human Rights for inquiry and report. The Committee published its full report on 12 February 2025, which we are now considering.

Recognising the importance of education and learning about Jewish heritage and culture, the Government has also committed \$8.5 million to upgrade the Sydney Jewish Museum, with funding to go towards the Centre of Jewish Life and Tolerance.

We have also committed \$4.4 million to build the National Holocaust Education Centre in Canberra and \$2 million to upgrade the Holocaust Institute of Western Australia's Education Centre in Yokine.

There is a clear online, private, public presence of hate, religions promoting or recruiting Australians in the name of their intent. With a national database in place, we will be able to track and identify all persons/people/gangs; religious, government and charitable organisations.

They will be investigated, charged, deported or sentenced to the charges provided. Task forces will connect the dots and syndicates dismantled.



Liberal Party answers adopted by Liberal candidate Benson Saulo

Labor Party answers adopted by Labor candidate Josh Burns

## Domestic Policy

### Q10/11: Migration Act and applicants for citizenship and visas

10. Would you advocate that the next government introduce mandatory training for immigration officers to recognise antisemitism and to disqualify applicants who have a track record in promoting antisemitism under the character test?

11. Would you advocate that the next government require all visa grantees to complete mandatory education on Australian values, including anti-racism, as a pre-condition before the granting of a visa?

### Q12/13: Cultural institutions and grant-making bodies

12. Would you advocate that the next government require that all Federal government grants come with a condition that the recipient does not promote racism, and, if the condition is subsequently breached, that the grant be revoked?

13. Would you advocate that the next government require, as a condition of receiving any Federal grant, that literary and cultural festival boards have a balance of political representation, and withdraw government funding if the condition is breached?

A Dutton Coalition Government will overhaul the Department of Home Affairs approach to screening for and acting on antisemitic conduct.

We will ensure individuals who engage in antisemitic conduct have their visas rejected or cancelled so they can be deported.

We will also ensure organisations affiliated with antisemitic views do not receive taxpayer funding, and that the Department is equipped to screen for this conduct before grants or contracts are awarded.

A Dutton Coalition Government will develop changes to the Australian Citizen Test to address the issue of antisemitism.

We will also ensure individuals who engage in antisemitic conduct have their visas rejected or cancelled so they can be deported.

The Coalition believes in freedom of thought, worship, speech and association. We do not believe censorship of political or other views, unless those views incite violence or hate, including racism and anti-Semitism.

Under a Coalition Government, we will not fund organisations or individuals, be it in the arts and culture, sport, or for any other purpose, that incite hate or violence, including racism and anti-Semitism.

My Government has also announced an additional \$4 million over two years from 2024-25 for the Together for Humanity program for delivery of initiatives aimed at strengthening intercultural and interfaith understanding, building culturally safe schools and addressing all forms of discrimination in schools, with a particular focus on Antisemitism and Islamophobia. This builds on \$17 million the Australian Government has previously committed towards a suite of school-focused social cohesion initiatives, including \$8.1 million for Together for Humanity.

As part of the Government's ongoing efforts to improve social cohesion in Australia, including fostering inter-faith dialogue, we have appointed a Special Envoy to Combat Antisemitism. Ms Jillian Segal AO. and a Special Envoy to Combat Islamophobia Mr Aftab Malik. We have also appointed Mr Peter Khalil MP as the Special Envoy for Social Cohesion.

Racial hatred has no place in Australia. Section 18C of the Racial Discrimination Act protects all Australians against racial hate speech and allows those using racial hate speech to be held accountable. The Labor Party stood with the Jewish community to stop repeated attempts by the Coalition in government to repeal this key hate speech protection. The Coalition has never demonstrated it has changed its mind on 18C.

I remain focused on listening to the concerns of Jewish Australian communities and to working across government and with community stakeholders to foster greater social cohesion, greater understanding and inclusion of all Australians.

I have copied this letter to the Hon Tony Burke MP, Minister for Home Affairs; the Hon Julian Hill MP, Assistant Minister for Citizenship and Multicultural Affairs; the Hon Mark Dreyfus KC MP, the Attorney-General; the Hon Jason Clare MP, Minister for Education; and Peter Khalil MP, Special Envoy for Social Cohesion for visibility of your concerns.

10. These are the very people sworn in to preserve Australian borders and protect before people enter the country. All training materials need to be updated in include character traits for antisemitism, hate, crime related intent.

11. Any person who is incompatible with Australian values, way of life or culture will be refused a visa.

12. All federal government grants will be revoked if they breach the conditions.

13. Cultural festivals are a big part of what Australia is, it's important any grants given they follow the law. Be balanced in representation and political inclusion is avoided from the events. Funding will be immediately revoked and events investigated.



Liberal Party answers adopted by Liberal candidate Benson Saulo



Labor Party answers adopted by Labor candidate Josh Burns



## Domestic Policy

### Q14: Social Media

Would a government formed by your party make it a national security priority to counter foreign interference, by enacting new legislation to regulate online algorithms so as to prevent prescribed State and non-State actors deemed by the government to be hostile to Australia from manipulating social media and disrupting the free exchange of ideas?

Where authoritarian regimes rely on secrecy and deception to advance their national interests on social media, Australia should rely on openness and transparency to secure our own.

In 2023, Senator James Paterson chaired the Senate Select Committee on Foreign Interference through Social Media, which recommended a range of enforceable transparency standards to both expose the clandestine conduct of authoritarian regimes online, and to empower and protect the freedoms of Australian social media users, recognising that not all social media platforms are the same.

Noting the threat environment has evolved in the intervening period since the Senate Committee's report was published, a Dutton Coalition Government will seek the advice of our national security agencies and consider how best to implement this approach to address foreign interference through social media and protect our values, freedoms and way of life.

I thank you again for your letter and trust this information is of assistance.

Yours sincerely

ANTHONY ALBANESE

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**OFFICIAL**

Freedom of speech is a fundamental right that needs to be protected in Australia. Australia is currently under threat from international and domestic interference. The current internet/online policies are very out of date and do not protect Australia. Major reform is needed, and I agree new legislation is required to regulate online algorithms, Australian/international media.

### Q15: The Greens

In the upcoming Federal election, will it be your party's policy that ALP candidates and Coalition candidates should preference each other ahead of the Greens' candidates?

The Liberal Party will not be doing any deals with the Greens.

Labor cannot make the same commitment, as the Prime Minister has admitted:

"If you ask me 'do you rule out governing in coalition with the Greens?' The answer is no! no!" - Prime Minister Anthony Albanese, 31 March 2025.

Labor has declared an open ticket in Macnamara i.e. no recommended preferences.

The Greens are a direct threat to Australia security and democracy. The ALP are a threat to Australians future, they will be put last as a preference as they do not represent Australian Jewish communities. My preference will be for Coalition.



Liberal Party answers adopted by Liberal candidate Benson Saulo

Labor Party answers adopted by Labor candidate Josh Burns

## Foreign Policy

### Q16: *Recognising a Palestinian State*

Under a government formed by your party, would Australia recognise a State of Palestine, other than as an outcome of a negotiated agreement between Israel and the Palestinians? If the answer is other than 'No', please specify:

- (a) which Palestinian entity Australia would recognise;
- (b) what processes a government led by your party would go through before making a decision about the matter.

No. The Coalition supports Australia's longstanding position in support of a two-state solution – but only one that is negotiated between the parties.

A two-state solution is essential to long-term peace and security in the region. The Albanese Labor Government will continue working with the international community towards a two-state solution – a Palestinian state and the State of Israel, living side by side in peace and security within internationally recognised borders.

No, I do not see Australia recognizing a State of Palestine. This is not an Australian matter that should have been allowed to fester into protests, hate, antisemitism and violence on Australian streets. Israel is a strong democratic state who are managing the war currently happening, if they needed help from other countries they will ask. There are many Arab countries who have an obligation to take in the people from Gaza and the West bank, which have not. Australia should not be taking in refugees. Israel should have never given up the territories many years ago. They have every right to stamp out terrorism and fight for the freedom of the remaining hostages.

The Albanese Labor Government has made clear that we will be guided by whether recognition of a Palestinian state will advance the cause of a just and enduring peace. Like many in the international community, Australia has been frustrated by the lack of progress towards a two- state solution. And like Canada, Germany, the UK and other partners, the Albanese Labor Government no longer sees recognition as only occurring at the end of the process. It could occur as part of a peace process. The Albanese Labor Government has made clear that it sees no role for Hamas in any future Palestinian state.

### Q17: *Jerusalem*

Will a government formed by your party restore Australia's recognition of west Jerusalem as Israel's capital?

The Coalition continues to oppose Labor's decision to change Australia's recognition of West Jerusalem as Israel's capital. We support the right of nations to determine their own capital. If elected we will not repeat Labor's diabolical failure of process on this issue, which saw them first deny any change, then within 24 hours, announce a significant change in Australia's position, all on an important Jewish holiday, without any consultation.

In line with the overwhelming majority of the international community and the previous longstanding and bipartisan Australian position for many decades, the Albanese Labor Government believes the status of Jerusalem should be resolved as part of peace negotiations and a two-state solution.

The whole of Jerusalem is Israel capitol according to the Torah, my answer is yes.

In contrast, the Coalition will conduct an orderly and professional consultation process, including discussions with local community groups, our agencies, and Israel's Government.



Liberal Party answers adopted by Liberal candidate Benson Saulo

Labor Party answers adopted by Labor candidate Josh Burns

## Foreign Policy

### Q18: Boycotts, Divestment and Sanctions against Israel (BDS)

In the words of its framers, BDS seeks to achieve the complete and total isolation of the State of Israel and rejects the concepts of Jewish peoplehood and collective self-determination. What is your party's position on BDS?

The Coalition rejects the BDS movement. There is a deep undercurrent of antisemitism within the BDS campaign, despite the protests to the contrary by its advocates.

The Albanese Labor Government opposes the boycott, divestment and sanctions (BDS) campaign.

My position is they're a complete joke in their ignorance.

### Q19: United Nations General Assembly

Since 2022, Australia has changed its votes at the UN General Assembly on at least seven resolutions that are regularly put forward in relation to the Israel-Palestinian conflict. Israel has protested that each of these changes has moved Australia to being less supportive of Israel than previously. If elected to government, would your party maintain Australia's current voting patterns in UN agencies concerning Israel or would it propose to alter these positions in support of Israel? If the latter, what changes would it make?

If elected, a Dutton Coalition Government will revert to Australia's previously longstanding positions on UN votes relating to Israel, rejecting Labor's recent unilateral changes which have been made for purely domestic political reasons.

The Coalition remains steadfast in our opposition to the UN's disproportionate focus on Israel.

Labor's failure to support a statement in the UN Human Rights Council objecting to this disproportionate focus is a further example of Labor's unilateral changes to previously longstanding Australian positions. The Coalition believes the UN should address all human rights concerns, regardless of country.

An Albanese Labor Government will continue to vote in the United Nations in support of a just and enduring peace and a two-state solution – a Palestinian state and the State of Israel, living side by side in peace and security within internationally recognised borders

One Nation and I are looking to exit the UN and WHO. They serve no purpose to Australia interests, value or security. Regarding Israel, we will always stand with them, support and advocate for them.



Liberal Party answers adopted by Liberal candidate Benson Saulo



Liberal Party answers adopted by Labor candidate Josh Burns



## Foreign Policy

### Q20: *People-to-people peace-building*

As an alternative to the UN Relief and Works Agency (UNRWA), should Australian aid for Palestinians be re-directed to programs which build economic, technological, health-care and other capacity in Palestinian society through direct cross-border partnerships between Israelis and Palestinians, such as Project Rozana and the programs that have been established by the US under the Middle East Partnership for Peace Act and by the EU, through the EU Peacebuilding Initiative (EUPI)?

The Coalition has consistently called for increased humanitarian aid to reach innocent civilians in Gaza, who desperately need it.

We have provided bipartisan support for Australian commitments for humanitarian aid to Gaza, but only where it can be provided through trusted organisations. A Dutton Coalition Government will cease all Australian funding to UNRWA, and instead direct this funding to trusted organisations to deliver support for Palestinian civilians in Gaza.

The Albanese Labor Government is committed to providing effective and transparent aid to the Palestinian people, which we believe can help build the institutions for statehood and address urgent development and humanitarian needs. It is critically important, however, that aid and program delivery goes directly to benefit those who are most in need. That is why Australian funding is only provided under stringent controls and safeguards to ensure it is used only for humanitarian purposes and complies with Australian law.

The Albanese Labor Government recognises the importance of people-to-people peacebuilding to securing an enduring peace for Israelis and Palestinians. We have committed to providing \$4 million to Project Rozana to support their work boosting the Palestinian health sector by addressing critical gaps in rehabilitation services and capacity-building of health workers.

No funding for international projects will be available from Australia for a period. We are currently going through a recession, homelessness, cost of living pressures, high taxes and an uncertain future for Australians. There plenty of wealthy Arab countries who are fully able to look after the Palestinians. To be clear this is not an Australian problem.



Liberal Party answers adopted by Liberal candidate Benson Saulo

Labor Party answers adopted by Labor candidate Josh Burns

## Foreign Policy

### Q21: Iran

According to the US State Department’s Country Reports on Terrorism published on 12 December 2024 “Globally, the Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps-Qods Force (IRGC- QF) and the Ministry of Intelligence and Security remained Iran’s primary actors involved in supporting terrorist recruitment, financing, and plotting across Africa, Asia, Europe, and the Americas..” Would a government formed by your party list the IRGC as a terrorist organisation under the Criminal Code 1995 (Cth).

There is significant evidence that the IRGC is engaged in terrorist activity, and Australia’s laws should reflect this reality. Failing to do so can only further diminish Australia’s standing and demonstrates the Albanese Government’s ongoing failure to adequately support international action such as the multi-nation operation against Iran-backed Houthi terrorism in the Red Sea.

The Coalition has repeatedly provided our bipartisan support for any actions required to enable the listing of the IRGC as a terrorist organisation, as Canada and the United States have already done.

A Dutton Coalition Government will seek immediate advice from our security agencies about the listing of the IRGC as a terrorist organisation.

The Albanese Labor Government has taken stronger action against Iran than any previous Australian Government. We have worked deliberately and strategically with partners to apply pressure on the Iranian regime, including by imposing sanctions on 200 Iranian-linked persons and entities.

Labor governments have long understood the threat the Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps (IRGC) poses to international security, and to its own people. The Gillard Government put broad-based sanctions on the IRGC as a whole in 2010. The Albanese Government has also recognised the threat they present. That is why we have used the tools available to us to take meaningful action, including sanctioning almost 100 IRGC linked individuals and entities since September 2022, including the Commander of the IRGC Qods Force and the IRGC Navy.

Under the Criminal Code, listings apply to non-state actors - they do not apply to state actors. The IRGC is a part of the Iranian state. This is the same legislation that was in place during the former Liberal and National governments.

The Albanese Labor Government remains deeply concerned about the destabilising activities of Iran and its affiliated groups. Labor supported the listing of Hezbollah and Hamas as terrorist organisations in their entirety and have joined partners in sanctioning their leaders since coming to government. On 24 May 2024, the Albanese Labor Government also listed the Houthis as a terrorist organisation.

We have been unequivocal in our condemnation of Hamas for its atrocities on 7 October 2023, and its ongoing acts of terror. The Albanese Labor Government has pressed countries with influence over Hamas to release hostages immediately, unconditionally and with dignity.

There are many groups that are named as terrorist groups or organizations across the world that are not in Australia. Reform is needed to include and unify with our allies to include all people/groups on the counter terrorism databases national and international.



Liberal Party answers adopted by Liberal candidate Benson Saulo



Labor Party answers adopted by Labor candidate Josh Burns



## Foreign Policy

### Q22: Abraham Accords

What is your party's view of the Abraham Accords and the normalisation of relations between Israel and States which were previously hostile to it, namely the UAE, Bahrain, Sudan and Morocco? What if anything does your party believe Australia should do to encourage other Arab League states to normalise relations with Israel?

The Coalition wants to see peace for Israelis and Palestinians. Not just physical security, but economic security. This will take significant regional leadership. The Abraham Accords provide a strong basis for Arab states to play a bigger role in securing peace in the wider region.

The Accords have been tested, and held, since the October 7 attacks and will only be stronger if other nations, like Saudi Arabia, can reach agreement with Israel in the future and join the Accords.

The Albanese Labor Government welcomes Israel's normalisation of relations with its neighbours under the Abraham Accords.

The Albanese Labor Government supports regional initiatives that contribute to long-term peace and security for Israelis and Palestinians.

The Albanese Labor Government will continue to work with the international community towards a two-state solution.

Australia has no business in the political playing field with the Arab leagues involving the Abraham Accords. History has shown Australia to be the aggressor against their allies by not bothering to investigate thoroughly before engaging owing through their own bias.

*I would like to finish off by saying the way Australians have voted has led to politicians' behavior. When one advocates for too many majority seats in the electorates and no minor parties, they rely on the closest independent for votes. It's time for people to understand the minor parties, see how similar they are in line with policies and vote for the minor party. We already know one of the two major parties will be in power. This is why I am running for the seat of Macnamara with Pauline Hanson's One Nation; it takes one vote in parliament to swing the amendment. Let my vote count for you.*

Thank you, Sean Rubin