



Select Committee on Information Integrity on Climate Change and Energy
Department of the Senate
PO Box 6100
Parliament House
Canberra ACT 2600
By email: climateintegrity.sen@aph.gov.au

11 September 2025

Dear Committee Secretariat,

We write in relation to the Senate Select Committee on Information Integrity on Climate Change and Energy's inquiry into the prevalence and impacts of misinformation and disinformation relating to climate change and energy (the Inquiry).

The Executive Council of Australian Jewry (the ECAJ) is the peak, elected, representative body of the Australian Jewish community. It was established for that purpose in 1944 by Australian Jewish organisations and their elected leaders. The ECAJ's constituent organisations are the roof bodies of the Jewish community in each State and Territory.¹ Other Jewish organisations which operate nationally are Affiliates of the ECAJ.² Altogether, the ECAJ's constituent and affiliated organisations, and their respective constituent and affiliated organisations, number approximately 200 major Jewish organisations across Australia.

The ECAJ has long been advocating for stronger laws to address misinformation and disinformation because of our understanding of how such misinformation and disinformation can take hold in our societies and cause serious harm. We refer the Inquiry to [our submission](#) dated 30 September 2024 to the Senate Standing Committees on Environment and Communications.

¹ Namely, the NSW Jewish Board of Deputies, the Jewish Community Council of Victoria Inc, the Jewish Community Council of Western Australia Inc, the Queensland Jewish Board of Deputies, the Jewish Community Council of South Australia, the Hobart Hebrew Congregation and the ACT Jewish Community Inc.

² Namely, Australasian Union of Jewish Students, Union for Progressive Judaism, Australian Federation of WIZO, Maccabi Australia Inc, National Council of Jewish Women of Australia, B'nai B'rith District 21 of Australia and New Zealand, Jewish National Fund of Australia Inc, Joint Distribution Committee Australia.

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Council of Progressive Rabbis
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Ex-Service Associations
New Zealand Jewish Council
Zionist Federation of Australia
Council of Orthodox Synagogues
of Australia

We have had the benefit of reading the submission of the Jewish Climate Network (JCN) and the recommendations contained therein, which we endorse. We also wish to supplement those recommendations with the following observation for consideration by the Inquiry:

The role that could be played by media literacy education, including in the school curriculum, in combatting misinformation and disinformation

We note that in February 2025, the ECAJ released its [Fifteen Steps to Defeat Antisemitism](#). This included the following steps in the area of education:

- Antisemitism education should be included within the national curriculum.
- A public awareness and advertising campaign to debunk the ideology of antisemitism and undermine its appeal should be launched, particularly directed at young audiences.

Given that the Inquiry is specifically considering media literacy education as a means of combatting misinformation and disinformation (under Term of Reference (g)), the ECAJ would strongly encourage the Inquiry to support the introduction of such education into the national curriculum. Any media literacy education should be sufficiently broad in scope, but also sufficiently specific, to tackle some of the most prevalent forms of misinformation and disinformation, including antisemitism, which adopt similar techniques to climate change misinformation and disinformation, and also in some instances intersect with it, as the JCN submission highlights. All misinformation and disinformation is harmful to the fabric of our society and one type of misinformation and disinformation can prime an audience for susceptibility to other types of misinformation and disinformation, with harmful consequences.

Please do not hesitate to contact us if you have any questions or wish to discuss any aspect of our response further.

Yours sincerely



Peter Wertheim AM
Co-CEO



Simone Abel
Head of Legal