

UPHOLDING THE BIG IDEAS

Options for Discussion

Providing detail for progressing
the conversation about constitutional
recognition of Aboriginal and
Torres Strait Islander peoples

Uluru's big ideas: the options

The Statement from the Heart was made at Uluru on 26 May 2017. It called for a First Nations' Voice to Parliament and a Makarrata Commission.

The Referendum Council's final report was delivered to the Prime Minister and Leader of the Opposition on 30 June 2017. It recommended amending the Australian Constitution to make provision for a First Nations' Voice to Parliament and adopting a Declaration of Recognition outside the Constitution.

Neither the Statement nor the final report provided comprehensive details about implementing their proposals.

Over the last twelve months, Uphold & Recognise has worked with the PM Glynn Institute at Australian Catholic University to provide the detail for how the big ideas discussed at Uluru and in the Referendum Council's final report might be realised.

They have been guided by a strategic committee comprising Professor Megan Davis, Sean Gordon, and Noel Pearson.

The result of their work is a set of options for how each of these proposals might be implemented. Two options are suggested for hearing Indigenous voices, for makarrata, and for adopting a declaration.

It is intended that these options might form the basis for further consultation with Australia's Indigenous peoples and in turn inform Australia's parliamentarians of constitutionally conservative options realising Indigenous aspirations.