

FECCA welcomes new Race Discrimination Commissioner

The Federation of Ethnic Communities' Councils of Australia (FECCA) today welcomed Mr Chin Leong Tan as Australia's new Race Discrimination Commissioner.

The Chairperson of FECCA, Mary Patetsos said that Mr Tan faced challenges in his job, including continuing pressure for the watering down of hate speech laws as well as growing racist commentary in the media.

"FECCA looks forward to the new Race Discrimination Commissioner taking a strong position on human rights and racial discrimination," Ms Patetsos said.

"In a multicultural society like ours, the role of the Race Discrimination Commissioner is vital.

"He cannot be a bystander while certain groups and individuals seek to push racist and extreme political agendas at the expense of the fundamental human rights of all Australians.

"We trust that Mr Tan will be as courageous and outspoken as his predecessor, Dr Tim Soutphommasane, who was fierce in his opposition to racism and fought to resist any weakening of hate speech laws," she said.

Ms Patetsos said she looked forward to meeting the new Race Discrimination Commissioner to discuss his position on a range of important issues.

FECCA is the national peak body representing Australians from culturally and linguistically diverse (CALD) backgrounds. Our role is to advocate and promote issues on behalf of our constituency to government, business and the broader community.

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