

# Call to support Australia's migrants and refugees this federal election

With one week to the 2016 Federal Election, the Federation of Ethnic Communities' Councils of Australia (FECCA) calls for all parties to adopt a policy platform that addresses the particular needs of Australia's culturally and linguistically diverse (CALD) population.

Australia has a long history of migration, with people from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds representing approximately one third of the population.

It is important to recognise that people from CALD backgrounds are not a homogenous group, encountering different outcomes based on a variety of factors.

These can include life experience, length of time since their arrival, migration pathway (e.g. as a refugee) and experience, level of acculturation and exposure to Australian services and systems, English language proficiency, and socioeconomic status.

These aspects have a distinct impact on the wellbeing of people from CALD backgrounds. It is vital there are targeted policy measures, with adequate resourcing of both policies and programs to ensure access, equity and participation, and assure that no one is left behind.

FECCA is seeking all parties' commitment to respond to the unique needs of this cohort.

Don't forget to visit the [Federal Election 2016 webpage on the FECCA website](#), featuring all your latest multicultural election content.

FECCA's election priorities: [Governing for All Australians: A Policy Platform to Respond to Australia's Cultural and Linguistic Diversity](#).

Major parties' responses: [Federal Election 2016: Multicultural policy commitments from the major parties](#).

**Media Comments: FECCA Office** – (02) 6282 5755 or [media@fecca.org.au](mailto:media@fecca.org.au).