

# Family Reunion Essential

The Federation of Ethnic Communities' Councils of Australia (FECCA) said today that maintaining a strong level of family migration was essential to the continuing success of Australia's multicultural society.

The Chairperson of FECCA, Mary Patetsos, said that Australia needed to protect and support Australians of all backgrounds in their access to family reunions, following reports of a 10 per cent cut in permanent migration in 2017-18, with fewer family reunions.

"FECCA believes that family migration is integral to the successful settlement of migrants in Australia, and also contributes to social cohesion and the wellbeing of the whole community. It is important that family ties and connections are maintained, as it assists in successful settlement, economic participation and integration," Ms Patetsos said.

"Australia has a proud history of immigration, which has brought many benefits to the nation.

"Migration bring skills, knowledge and experience to Australia. And, by contributing to the diversity of our communities, migration has built a productive and culturally rich Australian society.

"FECCA recognises that our successful immigration system should continue to be underpinned by integrity, transparency and fairness," Ms Patetsos said.

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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