

Will the major parties commit to policies and actions to support Australia's multicultural communities this Federal Election?

The Federation of Ethnic Communities' Councils of Australia (FECCA), as the peak national body representing Australians from culturally and linguistically diverse (CALD) backgrounds, has written to all the major parties, identifying priorities across a number of policy areas that will benefit CALD Australians.

You can read FECCA's election priorities – [*Governing for All Australians: A Policy Platform to Respond to Australia's Cultural and Linguistic Diversity*](#) – in full here.

We have asked the three major parties to answer the following 10 questions, with responses to be published on the FECCA website for consideration by our members and constituency.

1. Will you develop a national legislative framework on multiculturalism?
2. Will you develop an integrated national policy framework on languages?
3. Will you commit to policy action on harnessed productivity through diversity?
4. What steps will you take to ensure that Government Boards reflect our multicultural society, particularly addressing the extremely low level of representation of women from non-English speaking background on decision-making public bodies?
5. Will you review the approach to setting targets for eligible partners in the Family migration stream with a view to implementing an entirely demand-driven system?
6. Will you guarantee 24 hours of subsidised child care per week as a minimum standard for every child, regardless of parents' ability to meet an activity test, in view of the benefits of early childhood education for children from CALD backgrounds?
7. Will you ensure that people seeking to escape family violence are entitled to crisis payments regardless of their visa status?
8. Will you adopt a comprehensive national communications policy that supports public broadcasting in languages other than English and ethnic and multicultural community broadcasters?
9. Will you take targeted and comprehensive measures to empower CALD consumers in consumer-directed care reforms, including aged care, the NDIS and mental health, to ensure equitable access and experience?
10. Will you develop a National Community Relations Strategy with funding earmarked for national and community-based projects?

FECCA Chairperson Joe Caputo said, "At FECCA we are seeking a commitment from all political parties to support communities and foster cultural diversity and social cohesion, by adopting a targeted policy platform that responds to Australia's cultural and linguistic diversity."

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