



AAG Statement of Support for Uluru Declaration and Statement from the Heart

The Australian Association of Gerontology (AAG) formally supports the Uluru Statement from the Heart to secure constitutional recognition for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Australians. We praise the comprehensive work of those involved in creating the statement and working on the co-design process.

The Uluru Statement from the Heart is a critical step to embracing our shared history and walking together towards a better future for all Australians. Following the leadership of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Ageing Advisory Group in AAG, we recognise the Uluru Statement from the Heart as a historic mandate to create a fuller expression of Australia's nationhood. We acknowledge the ancient and ongoing sovereignty of the First Nations of Australia. We offer our support to the three key elements outlined in the Uluru Statement from the Heart.

1. We hear and support the call for the establishment of a First Nations Voice enshrined in the Constitution to empower Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.
2. We hear and support the call for a Makarrata Commission to supervise a process of agreement making between governments.
3. We hear and support the call for the Makarrata Commission to oversee a process of truth-telling about our history.

As such we implore the nation and the Parliament to accept the invitation in the Uluru Statement from the Heart and to walk with First Nations people to make Australia a more inclusive place for everyone.

Reflecting on the role of AAG and our non-Indigenous member allies it is our responsibility to maintain public support for this call to action for a First Nations voice to Parliament.

AAG Wishes to Commend the Voice Co-Design Senior Advisory Group on their work to develop comprehensive models presented for consideration.

If you wish to know more about the Uluru Statement from the Heart process please visit: <https://ulurustatement.org/>

If you would like to be more involved in the Co-Design of the Indigenous Voice to Parliament process please visit: <https://www.niaa.gov.au/indigenous-affairs/indigenous-voice>