

# RESPONSES TO ANTISEMITISM AND ISLAMOPHOBIA

## Standing Council of Attorneys-General - Responses to Antisemitism and Islamophobia – Australian Capital Territory anti-vilification measures

Jurisdiction	Table 1 - Civil laws which specifically protect against vilification/hate speech/conduct
Australian Capital Territory	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Section 67A of the <i>Discrimination Act 1991</i> makes it unlawful to incite hatred toward, revulsion of, serious contempt for, or severe ridicule of, a person or group distinguished by disability, gender identity, HIV/AIDS status, race, religious conviction, sex characteristics or sexuality. The provision applies to all conduct other than in private, including online conduct.</li> <li>• Section 75 of the <i>Discrimination Act 1991</i> imposes a positive duty on organisations and businesses not to engage in unlawful vilification and to take reasonable and proportionate steps to eliminate unlawful vilification. The provision will apply to all conduct, including online conduct. The duty under section 75 commenced for government entities on 11 April 2025 and will commence for private and non-government entities on 11 April 2027. The ACT Human Rights Commission (HRC) is working with agencies on their implementation of the positive duty.</li> <li>• A person may make a complaint about unlawful vilification to the HRC, which can investigate and conciliate complaints under the <i>Human Rights Commission Act 2005</i>. The HRC can also initiate an own motion consideration (commission-initiated consideration) if vilification is brought to its attention where a person could have made a complaint but has not, where a person has withdrawn their complaint or where it is a matter of public interest.</li> <li>• If a vilification complaint is not able to be resolved through the HRC’s dispute resolution process, the complainant (or the HRC in a commission-initiated consideration) may request that the matter be referred to the ACT Civil and Administrative Tribunal (ACAT) for a determination. If ACAT is satisfied that unlawful vilification has occurred, ACAT may order that the respondent: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ not repeat or continue the vilification,</li> <li>○ perform a stated reasonable act to redress any loss or damage suffered by a person because of the unlawful act, or</li> <li>○ pay a person a stated amount of compensation for any loss or damage suffered by the person because of the unlawful act.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

Jurisdiction	Table 2 - Criminal laws which specifically protect against vilification/hate speech/conduct
Australian Capital Territory	<p><b>Criminal offences:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Section 750 of the <i>Criminal Code 2002</i> makes it an offence for a person to intentionally carry out a threatening act and be reckless about whether the act incites hatred towards, revulsion of serious contempt for or severe ridicule of, a person or group of people on the grounds of disability, gender identity, HIV/AIDS status, race, religious conviction, sex characteristics and sexuality. The offence captures all conduct other than in private, including online conduct. Maximum penalty: 50 penalty units.</li> <li>• Section 752 of the <i>Criminal Code 2002</i> (ACT) prohibits a person displaying a Nazi symbol other than in private, if the person knows or ought reasonably to know that the symbol is associated with Nazi ideology. This would apply to a symbol in a publicly viewable post on social media. Maximum penalty: 12 months imprisonment.</li> </ul> <p><b>Sentence aggravation or penalty enhancement:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ACT legislation does not expressly require consideration of whether an offence was motivated by hatred or prejudice at sentencing, and serious vilification or ‘hate crimes’ are not an aggravating factor in any offences against the person. Sentencing courts are nevertheless required to consider relevant matters such as the nature and circumstances of the relevant offence and the motivations of the offender.</li> </ul> <p><b>Other:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Section 753 of the <i>Criminal Code 2002 Act</i> (ACT) provides that a police officer may direct a person to remove a Nazi symbol from display if the police officer reasonably believes that the person is committing an offence against section 752 by displaying the Nazi symbol. It is an offence for a person to fail to comply with the direction - maximum penalty: 10 penalty units.</li> <li>• Commonwealth criminal legislation also applies in the ACT. This includes recently enacted offences in the <i>Criminal Code Act 1995</i> relating to advocating or threatening violence against a person or their close associates based on a belief that the person is a member of a group distinguished by protected characteristics – including race and religious conviction.</li> </ul>

Jurisdiction	Table 3 - Reviews or reforms currently in progress
Australian Capital Territory	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• On 2 December 2025, the Justice and Community Safety Legislation Amendment Bill 2025 (No 3) was presented in the Legislative Assembly. Among other measures, the Bill seeks to amend the offence of serious vilification in the <i>Criminal Code 2002</i> and the corresponding provision relating to unlawful vilification in the <i>Discrimination Act 1991</i> to expressly prohibit vilification based on sex, and based on association with another person who is, or a group of people who are, identified by reference to a listed attribute.</li> </ul>

Jurisdiction	Table 3 - Reviews or reforms currently in progress
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The ACT Government has committed to review and strengthen hate crime and vilification laws, including to protect the ACT's LGBTIQ+ community. This review will provide the opportunity to consider whether the Territory's hate crime and vilification laws provide sufficient protection for all groups distinguished by protected characteristics.</li> </ul>

Jurisdiction	Table 4 - Other current or recent (within last 3 years) best practice initiatives relating to preventing/addressing vilification, including commissioned research
Australian Capital Territory	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>On 21 March 2023, the ACT Government tabled its response to the Standing Committee on Education and Community Inclusion's inquiry into racial vilification in the ACT. The inquiry investigated the prevalence of incidents of vilification and threats of physical violence in the Territory based on racial, linguistic, ethnic or religious background, and status as an Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander person – and the accessibility and effectiveness of mechanisms for reporting such incidents. The Committee made 16 recommendations and the ACT Government agreed with five, advised two already represented existing government policy, agreed in principle to six others acknowledging that work was already underway that was closely aligned with them, and noted the remaining three.</li> <li>In March 2023, the ACT Human Rights Commission (HRC) published the report '<a href="#">It Really Stabs Me': From resignation to resilience—children and young people's views on and experiences of racism in the ACT</a>'. The HRC also continues to undertake work to combat racism and vilification and to promote community inclusion. This variously includes community information sessions; provision of targeted information to specific groups including students and multicultural communities; advertising on mainstream and community multicultural radio; and information for stakeholder groups on making a complaint to the HRC.</li> <li>ACT Policing is engaged with the local multicultural community and plays a pivotal role in providing reassurance, maintaining social cohesion and building resilience and trust. ACTP officers receive cultural awareness training delivered through the AFP online portal. AFP recruits are required to undertake Cultural Health and Competency Program online modules in addition to the Cultural Awareness training program. In December 2024, ACT Policing established Operation Balranald as an ongoing operation to ensure a coordinated response to any antisemitic incidents that may occur in the ACT. ACTP has also recorded data about alleged antisemitic incidents in the ACT since 2024. Between 1 July and 30 September 2025, there have been 61 reports relating to alleged antisemitic incidents. These concerns were reported through a combination of National Security Hotline (NSH) referrals, information reports, direct complaints, and police action. The general theme for the reports were (1) antisemitic displays, posters and stickers, and (2) antisemitic comments.</li> <li>Work is also ongoing across the ACT Government to support and enhance social cohesion. As of late 2024, the ACT had 23 initiatives linked to social cohesion, representing a total investment of \$20 million. While some initiatives have a whole-of-society focus, others target demographics such as children and young people, women, LGBTIQ+ communities, multicultural communities, and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples. The ACT is also working with the Commonwealth Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet and Department of Home Affairs on a national framework for community cohesion. The ACT has also enacted the <a href="#">Multiculturalism Act 2023</a>. Among other matters, the Act enshrines in legislation the existing Multicultural Advisory Council and sets out the (non-enforceable) Charter of Multiculturalism. Relevantly, Principle 9 in the Charter expressly states that the ACT community has a shared responsibility to end racism and other forms of unlawful discrimination.</li> </ul>

## Standing Council of Attorneys-General - Responses to Antisemitism and Islamophobia - Commonwealth anti-vilification measures

Jurisdiction	Table 1 - Civil laws which specifically protect against vilification/hate speech/conduct
Commonwealth	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Section 18C of the <i>Racial Discrimination Act 1975</i> (Cth) provides that it is unlawful for a person to do an act, otherwise than in private, if the act is reasonably likely, in all the circumstances, to offend, insult, humiliate or intimidate another person or a group of people, and the act is done because of the race, colour or national or ethnic origin of the other person or some or all of the people in the group. The provision captures online content.</li> <li>• A person who has faced a public act of vilification contrary to section 18C can lodge a complaint with the Australian Human Rights Commission. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ The Commission has the power to investigate and attempt to resolve the issue via a conciliation process. If the complainant is not satisfied with the outcome from the conciliation process, they can take the matter to the Federal Court of Australia or the Federal Circuit and Family Court of Australia.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

Jurisdiction	Table 2 - Criminal laws which specifically protect against vilification/hate speech/conduct
Commonwealth	<p><b>Criminal offences:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Division 80 of Part 5.1 of the <i>Criminal Code Act 1995</i> (Criminal Code) contains a range of offences that protect against vilification, hate speech and hateful conduct. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Broadly, sections 80.2A-80.2BD make it an offence for a person to advocate or threaten force or violence against groups, members of groups, or close associates of members of groups distinguished by a range of characteristics. The offences also prohibit advocating or threatening damage to, or destruction of, places of worship and real property or motor vehicles owned or occupied by members of a group. These offences protect groups distinguished by race, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, intersex status, disability, nationality, national or ethnic origin or political opinion. Section 80.2BE creates an offence for advocating force or violence against a group by causing damage to property. This offence only applies in relation to groups distinguished by race, religion or national or ethnic origin. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Where this conduct is engaged in by religious officials, spiritual leaders or other leaders providing religious instruction or pastoral care (whether religious or secular), there are aggravated offences in section 80.2DA. If an adult advocates the use of such force or violence or damage to a child, there are also aggravated offences in 80.2DB.</li> </ul> </li> <li>○ In addition, sections 80.2H-80.2JA create offences for the public display or trade of prohibited symbols in certain circumstances. This includes the making of the Nazi salute and the display or trade of specified Nazi symbols and symbols used by terrorist organisations, state sponsors of terrorism and listed hate groups.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• The Criminal Code also has a range of offences relating to use of carriage services that may capture conduct that constitutes vilification, but they are not specific anti-vilification offences: see section 474.15 (using a carriage service to make a threat); section 474.17 (using a carriage service to menace, harass or cause offence); section 471.12 (using a postal or similar service to menace, harass or cause offence); section 474.45B (using a carriage service for violent extremist material); section 474.45BA (aggravated offence for using a carriage service for violent extremist material).</li> </ul> <p><b>Sentence aggravation or penalty enhancement:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Section 16A(2)(mb) of the <i>Crimes Act 1914</i> (Cth) provides an additional general sentencing factor which the court must consider when determining sentencing. This includes consideration of whether the person's conduct constituting the offence was motivated, whether wholly or partly, by hatred of another person (the targeted person) or a group of persons (the targeted group), and the hatred was because of the person's belief that the targeted person or persons in the targeted group are distinguished by a person's race or national or ethnic origin.</li> </ul> <p><b>Listing framework for prohibited hate groups:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Part 5.3B of the <i>Criminal Code 1995</i> (Cth) provides a framework to list organisations as prohibited hate groups where they engage in or advocate hate crimes on the basis of race, or national or ethnic origin. A hate crime is defined for this Part as conduct engaged in because the targeted person or group is distinguished by race or national or ethnic origin, and the conduct would constitute an offence under Subdivision C of Division 80 of the <i>Criminal Code 1995</i> (Cth) (other than sections 80.2, 80.2C or 80.2D), or involve publicly inciting hatred of another person where that conduct would constitute an offence against a provision of Commonwealth, state or territory law, or the conduct would cause serious harm, serious damage to property, death, endangerment to life or serious risk to the health or safety of the public. Once an organisation is listed, it is a criminal offence to direct the activities, be a member, recruit for, train, provide or receive funds or provide support for a prohibited hate group. The maximum penalty for these offences ranges from 7 to 15 years imprisonment.</li> </ul>

Jurisdiction	Table 3 - Reviews or reforms currently in progress
Commonwealth	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• On 9 January 2026, the Governor-General issued Letters Patent to establish the Royal Commission on Antisemitism and Social Cohesion which will report by 14 December 2026. The Royal Commission will examine the nature and prevalence of antisemitism, the circumstances surrounding the Bondi terror attack, and make recommendations to strengthen social cohesion and counter violent extremism.</li> </ul>

Jurisdiction	Table 4 - Other current or recent (within last 3 years) best practice initiatives relating to preventing/addressing vilification, including commissioned research
Commonwealth	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Australian Human Rights Commission completed its Respect at Uni: Study into antisemitism, Islamophobia, racism and the experience of First Nations People in the university sector. The Study investigates the prevalence, nature, and impact of individual and systemic racism in Australian universities and engaged in significant consultation with university students and staff. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ The Commission’s final report was delivered to the Minister for Education in December 2025. The Commission published the report on its website on 17 February 2026.</li> <li>○ The Government is considering its response to the report.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• On 18 December 2025, the Australian Government adopted the Special Envoy’s Plan to Combat Antisemitism and will continue to work through the implementation of the 13 recommendations in consultation with the Jewish Australian community and Ms Segal. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ This included establish an Antisemitism Education Taskforce led by Mr David Gonski AC to ensure that the Australian education system prevents, tackles and properly responds to antisemitism and directing the eSafety Commissioner and the Special Envoy to Combat Antisemitism to work together to provide online safety advice on best practices to address online antisemitism.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• The Government is giving careful consideration to the National Response to Islamophobia and recommendations of the Special Envoy to Combat Islamophobia.</li> <li>• Australian Human Rights Commission is delivering the National Anti-Racism Strategy through two streams of work: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ an updated public awareness campaign, ‘<i>There’s Nothing Casual About Racism</i>,’ launched November 2025 which succeeds the ‘<i>Racism. It Stops with me</i>’ campaign. The new campaign amplifies expertise, in particular from First Nations and other communities experiencing racism; creates information, tools and resources for combatting racism; and seeks to motivate and support the public to take action against racism; and</li> <li>○ the National Anti-Racism Framework, published 26 November 2024, which provides support to government, civil society, businesses and the community to tackle racism and promote racial equality in Australia. Government is currently considering the 63 recommendations contained in the framework.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• On 29 October 2024, the Attorney-General referred an inquiry into antisemitism at Australian universities to the Parliamentary Joint Committee on Human Rights in response to the recommendation of the Senate Legal and Constitutional Affairs Legislation Committee. The Committee <a href="#">tabled its report</a> on 12 February 2025. The Government is considering its response to the report.</li> </ul>

## Standing Council of Attorneys-General - Responses to Antisemitism and Islamophobia – South Australia anti-vilification measures

Jurisdiction	Table 1 - Civil laws which specifically protect against vilification/hate speech/conduct
South Australia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Section 73 of the <i>Civil Liability Act 1936 (SA)</i> contains a tort of racial victimisation. An act of racial victimisation is defined as a public act inciting hatred, serious contempt or severe ridicule of a person or group of persons on the ground of their race.</li> <li>This tort can apply to online vilification, as a ‘public act’ means any form of communication with the public and so could include posting on public webpages or social media pages.</li> <li>Racial victimisation complaints are brought in court as civil actions for damages. Damages for detriment caused by racial victimisation (including humiliation or harassment) are capped at \$40,000.</li> </ul>

Jurisdiction	Table 2 - Criminal laws which specifically protect against vilification/hate speech/conduct
South Australia	<p><b>Criminal offences:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Section 4 of the <i>Racial Vilification Act 1996 (SA)</i> provides that a person must not, by public act, incite hatred towards, serious contempt for, or severe ridicule of, a person or group of persons on the ground of their race by threatening physical harm to the person, or members of the group, or to property of the person or members of the group, or by inciting others to threaten physical harm to the person, or members of the group, or to property of the person or members of the group. Maximum penalty: \$25,000 for a body corporate. \$5,000, or imprisonment for 3 years, or both for an individual.</li> <li>Part 6A of the <i>Summary Offences Act 1953</i> provides for the offences of performing a Nazi salute or publishing a Nazi symbol. ‘Nazi symbol’ is defined as the hakenkreuz; an image of a Nazi salute, any symbol prescribed by the regulations to be a Nazi symbol (being a symbol that is associated with the Nazis, or with Nazi ideology), any other symbol associated with the Nazis, or with Nazi ideology or a symbol that so nearly resembles such a symbol that it is likely to be mistaken for such a symbol. Maximum penalty: \$20 000 or imprisonment for 12 months. It is also an offence under Part 6A to contravene a direction by a police officer to remove a Nazi symbol from public display.</li> <li>The <i>Summary Offences (Prescribed Nazi Symbols) Regulations 2026</i> were made on 15 January 2026 which prescribed symbols commonly used by the National Socialist Network and the European Australian Movement as Nazi symbols for the purposes of Part 6A of the <i>Summary Offences Act 1953</i>.</li> </ul> <p><b>Sentence aggravation or penalty enhancement</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Section 11 of the <i>Sentencing Act 2017 (SA)</i> provides that a court must take into account whether the offence was wholly or partly motivated by hatred for, or prejudice against, a group of people to which the defendant believed the victim belonged (including, without limiting this paragraph, people of a particular race, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity or age, or people having an intersex variation or a particular disability).</li> </ul>

Jurisdiction	Table 3 - Reviews or reforms currently in progress
South Australia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>In December 2025, the South Australian Government announced it will undertake a comprehensive review of SA’s anti-discrimination and anti-vilification frameworks, arising from a recommendation of the Royal Commission into Domestic, Family and Sexual Violence in its report ‘With courage: South Australia’s vision beyond violence’.</li> </ul>

Jurisdiction	Table 4 - Other current or recent (within last 3 years) best practice initiatives relating to preventing/addressing vilification, including commissioned research
South Australia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Equal Opportunity SA (<b>EOSA</b>) developed the South Australian ‘<a href="#">WE’RE EQUAL</a>’ initiative. This initiative spearheads EOSA’s educative work by helping organisations and businesses to create and sustain anti-discrimination environments for workers and consumers by providing resources and support to stimulate behavioural awareness and cultural change. This initiative extends to all 14 ‘protected attributes’ in SA’s <i>Equal Opportunity Act 1984</i>. Members commit to having zero tolerance for discrimination, bullying, and harassment and share a vision of South Australia as an open, inclusive society that embraces and supports difference and diversity.</li> <li>South Australia Police (<b>SAPOL</b>) are committed to maintaining public safety, including prosecuting any people or groups committing offences relating to hate crime or antisemitism where empowered to do so.</li> <li>The SAPOL State Protective Security Branch is proactive across numerous community groups, and at all levels of those communities, including maintaining contacts within the intelligence environment and a role as a supportive/assistive contact point for communities, ensuring reports of any ‘hate’-related offending receives appropriate policing response.</li> <li>SAPOL’s Governance and Capability Service are involved on the National Hate Crimes Database Working Group.</li> </ul>

Jurisdiction	Table 4 - Other current or recent (within last 3 years) best practice initiatives relating to preventing/addressing vilification, including commissioned research
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• SAPOL regularly engage in a vast range of community policing programs with schools, religious groups and various community groups. Although not specific to hate crime, this ongoing engagement fosters relationships with community groups to encourage open lines of communication with police, often helping to prevent hate crimes before they may occur.</li> <li>• The <i>South Australian Multicultural Act 2021</i> sets out to advance multiculturalism and interculturalism and provides for the <a href="#">South Australian Multicultural Charter (the Charter)</a>. The Charter provides vision and guidance to South Australian agencies, organisations, institutions, business and communities as a foundation for all South Australian policy development and the design and delivery of their service, including with principles to recognise, respect and value cultural, linguistic, racial and religious diversity and its contribution to the State. The <a href="#">Multicultural South Australia Ambassador Program</a> aims to embed the Charter, and to strengthen the cultural and linguistic diversity of South Australia’s workforce, policies and services.</li> <li>• Reconciliation SA, with funding support from SA’s Department for Education developed the <a href="#">Education, Action and Change Anti-racism resource for schools and preschools to assist preschools, primary and secondary schools in teaching and learning about racism and its impacts</a>.</li> <li>• SA’s Department for Education: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ has developed the <a href="#">safe and supportive learning environments plan of action 2024 to 2026</a> containing 15 key actions focussing on inclusive school culture, social and emotional wellbeing, bullying prevention and response, physical environments that promote safety and inclusion, responses to violence, and responding to learner needs.</li> <li>○ (in December 2024) reaffirmed its commitment to actively confront and eliminate racism in all its forms through the deliberate and sustained embedding of anti-racism across all areas of the system via the Department’s Anti-Racism Action Plan. The action plan will focus on the following key issues as a priority: developing an anti-racism policy and guidelines; establishment of anti-racism training for leaders and all staff; review of reporting and complaints processes; and development of a communications and awareness strategy.</li> <li>○ funds the ‘Adelaide Holocaust Museum &amp; Andrew Steiner Education Centre – Schools Program’ – to increase student participation in the Holocaust education program, and develop programs for students through the SA Curriculum: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ ensures that students are not only aware of anti-Semitism but are also equipped with the skills and values to actively challenge it, fostering a more inclusive and respectful society. The SA Curriculum embeds the tools and frameworks necessary to support anti-racist education—not as a standalone topic, but as part of a holistic approach across multiple learning areas.</li> <li>○ addresses the causes, effects, and manifestations of racism through various educational approaches. It emphasises conceptual understandings, ethical and intercultural capabilities, and dispositions such as empathy, respect, and community-mindedness. These elements are most explicitly addressed within the Humanities and Social Sciences (HASS), providing students with a comprehensive framework to understand and combat racism.</li> <li>○ focuses on developing both the capacity to act and the values that shape behaviour. These are embedded across all learning areas.</li> <li>○ In the secondary years (7–10), the HASS curriculum addresses racism conceptually through various subjects</li> <li>○ In History, students explore the enduring impacts of colonisation, global conflict, and advocacy for social change across Years 7 to 10</li> <li>○ In Year 10 history, within the Australian Curriculum, students analyse the causes, outbreak, and course of the Second World War, focusing on the devastating and everlasting impact of anti-Semitism on human life. This is often explored by examining the historical context of the Holocaust and investigating the significance and scale of this event on the modern world. Through critically examining the past and learning from the disciplines of humanities, young people are positioned as active, informed, ethical citizens.</li> <li>○ Civics and Citizenship focuses on themes of belonging, the influence of ideas, and obligations to human rights for students in Years 8 to 10. Additionally, Year 10 Geography analyses topics such as wellbeing, inequality, and human development, providing a comprehensive understanding of these critical issues.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> </li> <li>• SA Government agencies are delivering the <a href="#">South Australian Public Sector’s Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DEI) Strategy 2023 to 2026</a> – to embrace diversity, champion inclusion, and cultivate equity.</li> <li>• In April 2023, the SA Government committed to implementing the <a href="#">South Australian Public Sector Anti-Racism Strategy 2023-28</a> to equip the SA Public Sector to fight racism - with five priorities identified in the strategy: 1. enable employees to act 2. embed anti-racism into leadership and decision-making 3. strengthen inclusive and safe workplaces 4. ensure communications reinforce commitment to anti-racism 5. be accountable for anti-racism.</li> <li>• SA Government’s Department of Human Services (DHS) delivers the following initiatives: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <a href="#">‘Kick Out Hate’</a> Metro &amp; Regional Community Soccer tournaments (1 in 2024 and 2 in 2025) promoting social cohesion - collaboration between DHS, One Culture Football, SEDA College, the Australian Federal Police community liaison team and Adelaide United Football Clubs to promote inclusion, respect, and resilience against harmful narratives.</li> <li>○ ISSA Awareness Pilot (Schools) - Delivered in partnership with the Islamic Society of South Australia and SAPOL, this pilot provides joint training to better support young people in schools and strengthen safe, inclusive environments.</li> <li>○ Training with Catholic School Counsellors Association of SA - Delivered Inclusion Support 101 and related sessions to build awareness among school counsellors, supporting their capacity to identify and respond to harmful behaviours and extremist risks.</li> <li>○ Education E-Module (PLINK System – November Delivery) - An e-learning module will be rolled out via the PLINK system in November. It focuses on harmful ideas and behaviours, including violent extremism, and provides practical guidance for educators across all states and territories except NSW and VIC.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

Jurisdiction	Table 4 - Other current or recent (within last 3 years) best practice initiatives relating to preventing/addressing vilification, including commissioned research
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Amplifying Youth Voices Project (2025–2026) - Running until June 2026 in collaboration with Mentoring Coaching and Counselling Services, this campaign will develop a video resource to highlight young people’s experiences of violent extremism and harmful behaviours, creating new platforms for youth-led awareness and prevention.</li> </ul> <p>New Family &amp; Youth Resources – DHS is developing a suite of resources to support families, carers, and young people in addressing harmful behaviours and ideas, including violent extremism and racism. These resources will offer practical guidance, clear referral pathways, and tools to strengthen resilience. They align with the upcoming under-16 social media restrictions and with <i>A Safer Australia</i>, the national counter-terrorism and violent extremism strategy, by promoting safe, healthy, and responsible online and offline engagement.</p>

## Standing Council of Attorneys-General - Responses to Antisemitism and Islamophobia – Western Australia anti-vilification measures

Jurisdiction	Table 1 - Civil laws which specifically protect against vilification/hate speech/conduct
Western Australia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The <i>Equal Opportunity Act 1984 (WA)</i> (<b>EO Act</b>) does not currently contain any civil scheme to deal with anti-vilification.</li> </ul>

Jurisdiction	Table 2 - Criminal laws which specifically protect against vilification/hate speech/conduct
Western Australia	<p><b>Criminal offences</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Section 77 of the <i>Criminal Code Act 1913 (WA)</i> provides that any person who engages in conduct, otherwise than in private, by which the person intends to create, promote or increase animosity towards, or harassment of, a racial group, or a person as a member of a racial group, is guilty of a crime. Maximum penalty: 14 years imprisonment.</li> <li>Section 78 of the <i>Criminal Code Act 1913 (WA)</i> provides that any person who engages in any conduct, otherwise than in private, that is likely to create, promote or increase animosity towards, or harassment of, a racial group, or a person as a member of a racial group, is guilty of a crime. Maximum penalty: 5 years imprisonment. Summary conviction penalty: 2 years imprisonment and a fine of \$24,000.</li> <li>Section 79 of the <i>Criminal Code Act 1913 (WA)</i> provides that any person who possesses written or pictorial material that is threatening or abusive intending the material to be published, distributed or displayed whether by that person or another person, and intends the publication, distribution or display of the material to create, promote or increase animosity towards, or harassment of, a racial group, or a person as a member of a racial group, is guilty of a crime. Maximum penalty: 14 years imprisonment.</li> <li>Section 80 of the <i>Criminal Code Act 1913 (WA)</i> provides that if any person possesses written or pictorial material that is threatening or abusive intending the material to be published, distributed or displayed whether by that person or another person, and the publication, distribution or display of the material would be likely to create, promote or increase animosity towards, or harassment of, a racial group, or a person as a member of a racial group, the person possessing the material is guilty of a crime. Maximum penalty: 5 years imprisonment. Summary conviction penalty: 2 years imprisonment and a fine of \$24 000.</li> <li>Section 80A of the <i>Criminal Code Act 1913 (WA)</i> provides that any person who engages in any conduct, otherwise than in private, by which the person intends to harass a racial group, or a person as a member of a racial group, is guilty of a crime. Maximum penalty: 5 years imprisonment. Summary conviction penalty: 2 years imprisonment and a fine of \$24 000.</li> <li>Section 80B of the <i>Criminal Code Act 1913 (WA)</i> provides that any person who engages in any conduct, otherwise than in private, that is likely to harass a racial group, or a person as a member of a racial group, is guilty of a crime. Maximum penalty: 3 years imprisonment. Summary conviction penalty: 12 months imprisonment and a fine of \$12 000.</li> <li>Section 80C <i>Criminal Code Act 1913 (WA)</i> provides that any person who possesses written or pictorial material that is threatening or abusive intending the material to be displayed whether by that person or another person and intends the display of the material to harass a racial group, or a person as a member of a racial group, is guilty of a crime. Maximum penalty: 5 years imprisonment. Summary conviction penalty: 2 years imprisonment and a fine of \$24 000.</li> <li>Section 80D of the <i>Criminal Code Act 1913 (WA)</i> provides that if any person possesses written or pictorial material that is threatening or abusive intending the material to be displayed whether by that person or another person and the display of the material would be likely to harass a racial group, or a person as a member of a racial group, the person possessing the material is guilty of a crime. Maximum penalty: 3 years imprisonment. Summary conviction penalty: 12 months imprisonment and a fine of \$12 000.</li> <li>Section 80O(1) of the <i>Criminal Code Act 1913 (WA)</i> provides that a person commits a crime if the person displays a Nazi symbol in a public place. Maximum penalty: 5 years imprisonment. Summary conviction penalty: 2 years imprisonment and a fine of \$24,000.</li> <li>Section 80O(2) of the <i>Criminal Code Act 1913 (WA)</i> provides that a person commits a crime if the person displays a Nazi symbol on private property without the consent of the person who has the management or control of the private property. Maximum penalty: 5 years imprisonment. Summary conviction penalty: 2 years imprisonment and a fine of \$24,000.</li> <li>Section 80P(1) of the <i>Criminal Code Act 1913 (WA)</i> provides that a person commits a crime if the person makes a gesture in a public place, and the gesture is a Nazi salute or so nearly resembles a Nazi salute that is likely to be mistaken for a Nazi salute, and the person intends the gesture to be a Nazi salute. Maximum penalty: 5 years imprisonment. Summary conviction penalty: 2 years imprisonment and a fine of \$24,000.</li> <li>Section 80P(3) of the <i>Criminal Code Act 1913 (WA)</i> provides that a person commits a crime if the person makes a gesture on a private property, and the gesture is a Nazi salute or so nearly resembles a Nazi salute that is likely to be mistaken for a Nazi salute, and the person intends the gesture to be a Nazi salute, and the person makes the gesture without the consent of the person who has the management or control of the private property. Maximum penalty: 5 years imprisonment. Summary conviction penalty: 2 years imprisonment and a fine of \$24,000.</li> <li>Section 80Q of the <i>Criminal Code Act 1913 (WA)</i> provides that a person commits a crime if the person applies a Nazi symbol to a public property, or to the property of another person without the consent of that other person. 5 years imprisonment. Summary conviction penalty: 2 years imprisonment and a fine of \$24,000.</li> <li>Sections 80O, 80P and 80Q of the <i>Criminal Code Act 1913 (WA)</i> do not apply to a person under 18 years old.</li> </ul> <p><b>Sentence aggravation or penalty enhancement</b></p>

Jurisdiction	Table 2 - Criminal laws which specifically protect against vilification/hate speech/conduct
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The following provisions of the <i>Criminal Code Act 1913</i> (WA) contain an increased maximum penalty if the offence is committed in circumstances of racial aggravation: section 313 (common assault), section 317A (assault with intent), section 338B (threats) and section 444 (criminal damage).</li> </ul>

Jurisdiction	Table 3 - Reviews or reforms currently in progress
Western Australia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Drafting of a new EO Act is currently underway to implement the recommendations of the Law Reform Commission of Western Australia’s (LRCWA) Final Report on the Review of the EO Act, which recommended that the EO Act include anti-vilification provisions (recommendation 111), that these provisions apply to vilification on the grounds of disability, gender identity, sex, sex characteristics, race, religious conviction and sexual orientation (recommendation 114), that the definition of vilification focus on the likely effects of the vilifying conduct (recommendation 113), and that the EO Act should include a positive duty to eliminate discrimination, harassment, victimisation and vilification (recommendation 121). The LRCWA also recommended (recommendation 115) that consideration be given to expanding the scope of existing criminal anti-vilification provisions to cover serious or harmful instances of vilification on the basis of disability, gender identity, sex, sex characteristics, race, religious conviction and sexual orientation.</li> <li>The WA State Government is also further considering, within the context of the LRCWA recommendations, recommendation 4.30(b) of the Disability Royal Commission that states and territories that have legislation imposing criminal penalties for vilification of people on grounds that do not include disability should extend the legislation to vilification of people on the ground of disability.</li> <li>The WA State Government is currently consulting with stakeholders on the potential expansion of criminal vilification laws beyond the protected attribute of race, to include vilification on the basis of disability, gender identity, sex, sex characteristics, religious conviction and sexual orientation.</li> <li>The WA State Government has introduced the Criminal Code Amendment (Post and Boast Offence) Bill 2025 to Parliament. If enacted, this Bill will criminalise the dissemination of material which depicts certain offences, such as the display of Nazi salutes and symbols and conduct relating to racial hatred and harassment, where such material is likely to humiliate, intimidate or victimise the victim of the offence, or is likely to be offensive or demeaning to a person, or was disseminated for the purpose of glorifying the conduct or encouraging others to engage in such conduct. To alleviate the harm caused by the dissemination of the material, the reform will also empower the court to order the person to take down the material. Failure to comply with such an order would also be an offence.</li> </ul>

Jurisdiction	Table 4 - Other current or recent (within last 3 years) best practice initiatives relating to preventing/addressing vilification, including commissioned research
Western Australia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>In the WA Police Force Security Operations Division, a “Hate Crime” Team has been created with the State Security Investigation Group to provide a consistent approach to the investigation and prosecution of crimes in relation to antisemitism and racial vilification.</li> <li>Creation of a Hate Crime training package to be completed by WA Police staff (sworn and unsworn).</li> </ul>

## Standing Council of Attorneys-General - Responses to Antisemitism and Islamophobia - Queensland anti-vilification measures

Jurisdiction	Table 1 - Civil laws which specifically protect against vilification/hate speech/conduct
Queensland	<p>Section 124A of the <i>Anti-Discrimination Act 1991</i> (Qld) provides that a person must not, by a public act, incite hatred towards, serious contempt for, or severe ridicule of, a person or group of persons on the ground of the race, religion, sexuality, sex characteristics or gender identity of the person or members of the group.</p> <p>Under chapter 7 of the <i>Anti-Discrimination Act 1991</i> (Qld), a person who has been subjected to unlawful vilification contrary to section 124A in QLD, or an entity that promotes the interests or welfare of people of a particular race, religion, sexuality, gender identity, or sex characteristics, can lodge a complaint with the Queensland Human Rights Commission (QHRC).</p>

Jurisdiction	Table 2 - Criminal laws which specifically protect against vilification/hate speech/conduct
Queensland	<p><b>Criminal offences:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Section 52A of the Criminal Code (Qld) provides that a person must not, by a public act, knowingly or recklessly incite hatred towards, serious contempt for, or severe ridicule of, a person or group of persons on the ground of race, religion, sexuality or gender identity of the person or members of the group in a way that includes threatening physical harm towards, or towards any property of, the person or group of persons, or inciting others to threaten physical harm towards, or towards any property of, the person or group of persons. Maximum penalty: 3 years imprisonment.</li> <li>• The section 52A offence also applies to online vilification.</li> <li>• Section 52D of the Criminal Code (Qld) provides that a person who publicly distributes, publishes or publicly displays a prohibited symbol in a way that might reasonably be expected to cause a member of the public to feel menaced, harassed or offended, commits an offence, unless the person has a reasonable excuse. Maximum penalty: 70 penalty units or 6 months imprisonment. Under section 52C, a 'prohibited symbol' is a symbol or image prescribed by regulation or that so nearly resembles a symbol or image prescribed by regulation that it is likely to be confused with or mistaken for that symbol. The <i>Criminal Code (Prohibited Symbols) Regulation 2024</i> (Qld) prescribes a number of Nazi and terrorist organisation related symbols as prohibited symbols under the Code.</li> <li>• The section 52D offence is intended to capture a broad range of circumstances, including the public distribution or publication of prohibited symbols online.</li> </ul> <p><b>Sentence aggravation or penalty enhancement</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Section 52B of the Criminal Code (Qld) provides that it is a circumstance of aggravation for a prescribed offence that the offender was wholly or partly motivated to commit the offence by hatred or serious contempt for a person or a group of persons based on, in relation to a person – the race, religion, sexuality, sex characteristics or gender identity of the person, or presumed race, religion, sexuality, sex characteristics or gender identity of the person, or in relation to a group of persons – the race, religion, sexuality, sex characteristics or gender identity shared, or presumed to be shared, by the members of the group.</li> <li>• A prescribed offence means an offence against the following provisions in the <i>Criminal Code Act 1899</i> (Qld): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ section 69 (armed in public)</li> <li>○ section 75 (threatening violence)</li> <li>○ section 207 (disturbing religious worship)</li> <li>○ section 335 (common assault), section 339 (assault occasioning actual bodily harm)</li> <li>○ section 359 (threats), section 359E (unlawful stalking, intimidation, harassment and abuse)</li> <li>○ section 469 (wilful damage).</li> </ul> </li> <li>• The circumstance of aggravation in section 52B of the Criminal Code (Qld) also applies to two offences under the <i>Summary Offences Act 2005</i> (Qld): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ section 6 (public nuisance) and</li> <li>○ section 11 (trespass).</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p><b>Fighting Antisemitism and Keeping Guns out of the Hands of Terrorists and Criminals Amendment Bill 2026 (the Bill)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Bill was introduced into the Queensland Parliament on 10 February 2026 and contains measures designed to protect against vilification/ hate speech/conduct by: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ expanding the existing offence under Section 52D (Display, distribution or publication of prohibited symbols) of the Criminal Code (Qld) to apply to the symbols of terrorist organisations or state sponsors of terrorism listed under the Commonwealth Criminal Code where an entity or class of entity has been prescribed by regulation and increasing the maximum penalty for this offence to 150 penalty units or 2 years imprisonment;</li> <li>○ providing a new framework under the Criminal Code (Qld) for expressions to be prescribed by regulation as prohibited expressions and a new offence (proposed section 52DA of the Criminal Code (Qld) for publicly reciting, publicly distributing, publishing or publicly displaying a prohibited expression in a way that might reasonably be expected to cause a member of the public to feel menaced, harassed or offended (Maximum penalty: 150 penalty units or 2 years imprisonment);</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

Jurisdiction	Table 2 - Criminal laws which specifically protect against vilification/hate speech/conduct
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ modernising and increasing penalties for existing offences under the Criminal Code (Qld) relating to assaults on ministers of religion which hinder or prevent the minister from lawfully performing their religious functions (Maximum penalty: five years imprisonment) and disturbing religious worship without reasonable excuse (Maximum penalty: 20 penalty units or 6 months imprisonment or one year imprisonment where offending is motivated by hatred or serious contempt for a person or a group of persons based on protected attributes of that person or group);</li> <li>○ introducing a new offence relating to intimidating or obstructing persons entering or leaving places of religious worship (Maximum penalty: three years imprisonment); and</li> <li>○ increasing the penalty for wilful damage to premises that are a place of religious worship (Maximum penalty: seven years imprisonment).</li> </ul>

Jurisdiction	Table 3 - Reviews or reforms currently in progress
Queensland	

Jurisdiction	Table 4 - Other current or recent (within last 3 years) best practice initiatives relating to preventing/addressing vilification, including commissioned research
Queensland	<p><b>Queensland Police Service (QPS) Hate Crimes Scrutiny Panel (Recommendation 10, Report No. 22 – Inquiry into serious vilification and hate crimes)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The QHRC has supported the QPS Multicultural Affairs Unit to develop and implement a pilot Hate Crimes Scrutiny Panel.</li> <li>• The Panel will operate as a District-led advisory body, reviewing finalised hate crime cases and providing recommendations to improve QPS responses, policies and practices impacting diverse communities in Queensland.</li> </ul> <p><b>QPS Police Multicultural Advisory Group (PMAG)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The PMAG is a statewide advisory body chaired by the Commissioner of Police, comprising of 9-15 respected community leaders representing diverse faith and cultural backgrounds.</li> <li>• Meeting quarterly across 2024-2027, the PMAG provides strategic advice to improve policing activities, responses and practices that impact multicultural communities.</li> <li>• The group plays a key role in progressing commitments from the Queensland Multicultural Action Plan 2024-27 and recommendations from Report No. 22, 57<sup>th</sup> Parliament – Inquiry into serious vilification and hate crimes, with deliverables including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Development and implementation of a mandatory Hate Crimes Online Learning Product (OLP) for all QPS police officers and staff members, creation of a Hate Crimes Officer Assistance Kit (OAK) to support frontline practice, establishment of internal and external hate crimes web pages, and production of multilingual hate crimes flyers and brochures, translated into 21 key community languages.</li> <li>○ Collectively, these initiatives embed cultural responsiveness and strengthen frontline capacity in recognising and responding to vilification and hate crimes.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p><b>QPS Culturally and Linguistically Diverse Consultative Group (CALD CG)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The CALD CG was established in 2021 to contribute to healthy, safe, positive and inclusive workplaces through the provision of advice, insight and guidance on matters relating to and impacting the multicultural workforce of the QPS.</li> <li>• Membership of the CALD CG is made up of 9-15 QPS employees with diverse languages, cultures, faiths, experiences, ranks/levels, roles and geographical locations.</li> <li>• Meeting bi-monthly across 2021-2027, the CALD CG is integral to the enhancement of the QPS as a culturally safe, culturally inclusive and culturally capable organisation. Key deliverables include the development and implementation of the QPS Multicultural Action Plan 2024-27, which includes several commitments around preventing/addressing racism, vilification and hate crimes.</li> </ul> <p><b>QPS Hate Crimes Dashboard</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The QPS has developed an internal Hate Crimes Dashboard to capture and analyse data on serious vilification and hate crimes across Queensland.</li> <li>• The dashboard provides detailed statistics, data trends, and insights to inform operational decision-making, policy development, and resource allocation.</li> <li>• This tool enhances transparency and evidence-based practice, ensuring QPS can monitor progress and adapt strategies to better protect vulnerable communities.</li> </ul> <p><b>QPS proactive culturally and linguistically diverse (CALD) community engagements</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To complement the QPS hate crime initiatives, and to strengthen community-police relationships, the QPS undertakes a wide range of proactive CALD engagement activities designed to build trust, cultural awareness and mutual support, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Senior Executive Leadership Team Cultural Visits: The Commissioner and Deputy Commissioners participate in cultural visits to deepen understanding around cultural protocols and engagement. In 2025, these included visits to the Brisbane Sikh Temple, Brisbane Hebrew Congregation Synagogue and Holocaust Museum, and Fo Guang Shan Tian Buddhist Temple. These engagements provide senior leaders with direct insight into diverse community perspectives and lived experiences.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

Jurisdiction	Table 4 - Other current or recent (within last 3 years) best practice initiatives relating to preventing/addressing vilification, including commissioned research
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Annual Signature Events: QPS hosts the EID Dinner and the Multicultural/Multifaith Dinner, bringing together QPS members, partner agencies, and community leaders. These events celebrate diversity, foster dialogue, and strengthen partnerships across faith and cultural groups.</li> <li>• Ongoing Community Engagement: Weekly interactions with key community leaders and regular attendance at CALD community events ensure continuous dialogue and responsiveness to emerging issues.</li> <li>• Police Reference Groups: At both state and district levels, QPS facilitates reference groups that provide structured opportunities for CALD communities to contribute to policing strategies, policies, and practices.</li> <li>• Through these initiatives, QPS demonstrates its commitment to inclusivity, cultural respect, and collaborative problem-solving. These engagements not only supplement hate crime prevention efforts but also build enduring relationships that enhance safety, trust, and confidence across Queensland’s diverse communities.</li> </ul> <p><b>QPS Security and Counter Terrorism Network (SCTN) Officers</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• SCTN members across all police regions leverage established partnerships between the Cross-Cultural Liaison Officer network and affected communities to deliver tailored protective security advice.</li> </ul> <p><b>Queensland Holocaust Museum and Education Centre (QHMEC)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In 2020, funding commitments were made by all three levels of government to establish the QHMEC.</li> <li>• In July 2023, the QHMEC was opened at a temporary site in Brisbane, along with an innovative and interactive online museum. The museum also works with schools in regional Queensland to share this valuable educational experience. Multicultural Affairs Queensland is regularly engaging with the managing entity, QHMEC Ltd, to support delivery of a permanent location for the museum in Brisbane.</li> <li>• The QHMEC will collect, preserve and display historical material artefacts and eyewitness accounts from Holocaust survivors for students, teachers and museum visitors to understand and study the Holocaust.</li> </ul> <p><b>QHRC Interfaith engagement and education under the Anti-Discrimination Act</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• QHRC has ongoing engagement with key faith leaders, including through the Queensland Faith Communities Council, an interfaith initiative, Queensland Muslims Inc. and Courage to Care .</li> <li>• QHRC also engages with Muslim young people in educational environments to discuss human rights and protections.</li> </ul> <p><b>QHRC Community education and engagement on vilification risks</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• QHRC regularly delivers presentations on discrimination and human rights, including vilification protections, to communities through programs like the Workers' Rights Education and Support Services Program which is funded by the Queensland Government through Multicultural Affairs Queensland.</li> <li>• QHRC regularly delivers education on the Anti-Discrimination Act, including vilification, to duty-bearers in the public, private and community sectors across Queensland.</li> <li>• QHRC also maintains regular contact with Multicultural Affairs Queensland and the Department of Home Affairs, who have both reported rising community concerns about vilification.</li> </ul> <p><b>QHRC Anti-racism work in schools</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In 2024, the QHRC conducted qualitative research capturing the experiences and impacts of racism in Queensland schools.</li> <li>• The QHRC is currently developing a toolkit to help schools identify, prevent and manage instances of racism, supporting safer and more inclusive environments for all students.</li> </ul> <p><b>Department of Education (DoE) initiatives</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• DoE will participate in the 12-month Antisemitism Education Taskforce, led by Mr David Gonski AC and including the Special Envoy to Combat Antisemitism in Australia, Ms Jillian Segal, and representatives from across the nation’s educational jurisdictions.</li> <li>• A focus of the Taskforce is to explore opportunities for education jurisdictions to partner with UNESCO on its Antisemitism education program initiative: National Approach to Addressing Antisemitism in Australian Schools. DoE has had initial conversations regarding the program and will participate in more formal meetings in March 2026 when UNESCO visits Australia.</li> <li>• Schools are supported to meet their legislative obligations in relation to human rights and discrimination through DoE’s <i>Inclusive Education policy</i>.</li> <li>• DoE employees complete mandatory training each year that includes direction about the human rights and anti-discrimination legislative obligations that apply to their work.</li> <li>• In partnership with Multicultural Affairs Queensland, DoE has engaged a university supplier to undertake research into the inclusion of culturally and linguistically diverse students in state education.</li> <li>• The DoE ‘We All Belong’ workplace inclusion and diversity framework and a supporting suite of professional learning, raises awareness of unconscious bias, building intercultural understanding and responding to discrimination.</li> <li>• DoE provides schools with targeted resources to support implementation of the P-10 Australian Curriculum, which includes education about Antisemitism and the Holocaust in History, the values that support social cohesion in Civics and Citizenship, and valuing diversity in their community in health and physical education.</li> <li>• DoE supports schools to deliver Respectful Relationships Education (RRE) through the curriculum with the Respect materials, including learning about respecting self, respecting others and respecting human rights.</li> </ul> <p><b>QHRC Complaints data and resolution outcomes</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• From 1 July 2021 to 30 June 2025, the QHRC accepted 87 complaints of vilification.</li> <li>• The conciliation rate for vilification complaints (24%) remains lower than the overall average (47% under the Anti-Discrimination Act and 39% for all complaints), highlighting the complex nature of these matters.</li> </ul>

## Standing Council of Attorneys-General - Responses to Antisemitism and Islamophobia - Victoria anti-vilification measures

Jurisdiction	Table 1 - Civil laws which specifically protect against vilification/hate speech/conduct
Victoria	<p><b>Civil protections</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sections 7 and 8 of the <i>Racial and Religious Tolerance Act 2001</i> (Vic) (RRTA) make it unlawful to engage in conduct that incites hatred against, serious contempt for, or revulsion or severe ridicule of, another person or class of persons on the ground of their race or religious belief or activity. This provision applies to online conduct, but does not apply to private acts. There are a number of exceptions to the prohibition.</li> <li>• A person who has experienced vilification can bring a dispute to the Victorian Equal Opportunity and Human Rights Commission or can make an application directly to the Victorian Civil and Administrative Tribunal.</li> </ul> <p><i>Protections yet to commence:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The <i>Justice Legislation Amendment (Anti-Vilification and Social Cohesion) Act 2025</i> will repeal the RRTA and move the civil anti-vilification protections into the <i>Equal Opportunity Act 2010</i> (Vic) (EOA). The civil protections will commence operation in April 2026. The Act will: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ expand the civil anti-vilification protections beyond race and religious belief and activity to also protect the attributes of disability, gender identity, sex, sex characteristics, sexual orientation and personal association with a person who has a protected attribute.</li> <li>○ introduce a new harm-based protection, which will make it unlawful to engage in public conduct because of the protected attribute of a person or group that would, in all the circumstances, be reasonably likely to be considered by a reasonable person with the protected attribute to be hateful or seriously contemptuous, or reviling or severely ridiculing (new section 102D EOA).</li> <li>○ amend the civil incitement-based protection so that it applies to conduct that is ‘likely to’ incite hatred against, serious contempt for, or revulsion or severe ridicule of, another person or class of persons on the ground of a protected attribute (new section 102E EOA).</li> <li>○ retain the civil exceptions (for academic, artistic, fair and accurate report, public interest, religious, scientific conduct) with minor amendment. It also makes it clear that the civil protections apply to public conduct, including online conduct.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

Jurisdiction	Table 2 - Criminal laws which specifically protect against vilification/hate speech/conduct
Victoria	<p><b>Criminal offences</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• On 20 September 2025, reforms in the <i>Justice Legislation Amendment (Anti-Vilification and Social Cohesion) Act 2025</i> to improve the operation of serious vilification criminal offences commenced. The Act inserts new serious vilification offences into the <i>Crimes Act 1958</i> (Vic): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ section 195N makes it an indictable offence to engage in conduct that is likely to incite hatred against, serious contempt for, revulsion towards or severe ridicule of, another person or a group on the ground of their protected attribute, when intending for their conduct to incite that response or believing their conduct will probably do so. The maximum penalty is 3 years imprisonment.</li> <li>○ section 195O makes it an indictable offence to threaten physical harm toward or to damage the property of, or otherwise related to, another person or group on the ground of their protected attribute, while either intending that the other person or group will believe the threat will be carried out, or believing they will probably do so. The maximum penalty is 5 years imprisonment. Inciting others to make a threat like this will be addressed using Victoria’s incitement offence (section 321G <i>Crimes Act 1958</i> (Vic)).</li> <li>○ these offences protect the attributes of race, religious belief or activity, disability, gender identity, sex, sex characteristics, sexual orientation and personal association with a person who has a protected attribute.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• These new offences apply to private conduct and online conduct. The new offences also clearly apply to conduct that occurs outside Victoria, when there is a sufficient link to Victoria (for example, the person or property being threatened is in Victoria).</li> <li>• The Director of Public Prosecutions’ (DPP) consent will be required to commence a prosecution for all serious vilification offences. The DPP will be required to consider all circumstances surrounding the alleged offending conduct, including the social, cultural and historical circumstances, in determining whether to prosecute a serious vilification offence.</li> <li>• Section 41K <i>Summary Offences Act 1966</i> (Vic) prohibits the public display of a Nazi symbol and the performance or display of a Nazi gesture such as the Nazi salute. The maximum penalty is 12 months imprisonment and/or a 120 penalty unit fine. There are exceptions to allow such symbols and gestures to be displayed or performed for an appropriate purpose, such as display or performance for an academic, artistic or educational purpose.</li> </ul> <p><b>Sentence aggravation or penalty enhancement</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Section 5(2)(daaa) <i>Sentencing Act 1991</i> (Vic) requires a sentencing court to consider whether an offence was motivated by hatred or prejudice.</li> </ul>

Jurisdiction	Table 3 - Reviews or reforms currently in progress
Victoria	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The <i>Justice Legislation Amendment (Anti-Vilification and Social Cohesion) Act 2025</i> (Vic) received royal assent on 8 April 2025. The new serious vilification offences commenced on 20 September 2025, and the civil protections will commence in April 2026. The Act will: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ repeal the <i>Racial and Religious Tolerance Act 2001</i> (Vic) and move serious vilification offences to the <i>Crimes Act 1958</i> (Vic) and civil anti-vilification protections to the <i>Equal Opportunity Act 2010</i> (Vic).</li> <li>○ retain protections under anti-vilification laws for people based on their race and religion and expand protections to cover the attributes of disability, gender identity, sex, sex characteristics, sexual orientation and personal association with a person who has a protected attribute.</li> <li>○ improve how serious vilification criminal offences operate, including by introducing two offences with lower thresholds and higher maximum penalties.</li> <li>○ improve how civil protections operate, including by introducing a new harm-based protection and retaining the civil exceptions with minor amendment.</li> <li>○ continue to enable victims to seek civil redress through the Victorian Civil and Administrative Tribunal and the Victorian Equal Opportunity and Human Rights Commission (VEOHRC) and extend VEOHRC's existing powers under the <i>Equal Opportunity Act</i> to respond to vilification.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• The Act gives effect to 15 of the legislative recommendations of the 2021 Victorian Parliamentary <i>Inquiry into Anti-vilification Protections</i>. These reforms to anti-vilification laws follow the government's ban of the use of the Nazi Hakenkreuz in 2022, followed by the ban of the Nazi salute and other symbols and gestures used by the Nazi Party in 2023.</li> <li>• To build on the Act's reforms, and further support social cohesion, the <i>Justice Legislation Amendment (Police and Other Matters) Act 2025</i> (Vic) received Royal Assent on 9 December 2025. This Act contains reforms that will give Victorian police stronger powers to respond to violent, dangerous and hateful protesters and provide stronger protections for those attending religious worship. These reforms have been developed in consultation with key faith, community, legal, and human rights organisations and include appropriate exemptions. The reforms: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ empower police to direct a person to cease wearing a face covering if the police officer reasonably believes the person has or intends to, commit an offence at a public protest. Failure to comply with a direction from a police officer without a reasonable excuse will be an offence that carries a penalty of \$1017.55. These reforms commence operation on 4 March 2026.</li> <li>○ prohibit the use of things or substances (such as rope, glue, chain or locks) to lock on at a public protest in a way that is likely to cause injury to another person or presents a serious risk to public safety. Committing the new offence carries penalties of \$24,421.20 or 12 months imprisonment or both (in addition to other available offences). These reforms commence operation on 4 March 2026.</li> <li>○ prohibit the public display of symbols of terrorist organisations in Victoria. Committing the new offence carries penalties of \$24,421.20 or 12 months imprisonment or both (in addition to other available offences). These reforms commence operation on 4 March 2026.</li> <li>○ modernise and strengthen the existing offence of disturbing religious worship and introduce a separate offence of assaulting a person attending a religious worship meeting, and offences for conduct that intimidates, menaces or harasses, or obstructs or hinders person attending religious worship meeting to protect the right of all Victorians to gather and pray, free from fear, harassment and intimidation. Committing any of the new offences carries penalties of \$3052.65 or 3 months. These reforms commenced operation on 10 December 2025.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• On 22 December 2025, the Victorian Premier announced further measures to combat antisemitism including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ bringing forward commencement of the civil anti-vilification protections in the <i>Justice Legislation Amendment (Anti-Vilification and Social Cohesion) Act 2025</i> (Vic) from 30 June 2026 to April 2026.</li> <li>○ spearheading new laws to hold social media companies and anonymous users to account and appointing a respected jurist to unlock the legislative path forward.</li> <li>○ bringing laws to Parliament in early 2026 to remove the requirement that the Director of Public Prosecutions consent to police prosecutions for criminal vilification.</li> <li>○ introducing new special police powers to allow the Chief Commissioner of Victoria Police to stop or move on a public protest within a certain timeframe following a designated terrorist event.</li> <li>○ appointing Commissioner Ken Lay to ensure Victoria's gun laws reflect the contemporary risks of today.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

Jurisdiction	Table 4 - Other current or recent (within last 3 years) best practice initiatives relating to preventing/addressing vilification, including commissioned research
Victoria	<p><b>Legislation and enforcement</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Victorian Equal Opportunity and Human Rights Commission (VEOHRC) currently has powers to provide voluntary dispute resolution and public education on vilification. VEOHRC provides a number of resources on vilification, including their 2024 <a href="#">Guideline: Race Discrimination in the Workplace</a>, which includes information on what racial or religious vilification may look like in the workplace.</li> <li>• The <i>Justice Legislation Amendment (Anti-Vilification and Social Cohesion) Act 2025</i> extends VEOHRC’s powers to align with its existing powers for other matters under the <i>Equal Opportunity Act 2010</i>, including discrimination matters. These reforms will commence in April 2026. This will enable VEOHRC to also: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ undertake investigations into systemic vilification</li> <li>○ engage in research</li> <li>○ conduct voluntary reviews of organisations’ programs and practices</li> <li>○ provide advice to organisations about preparing voluntary action plans</li> <li>○ issue practice guidelines, and</li> <li>○ intervene and provide information in civil or criminal court and tribunal vilification proceedings as amicus curiae.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p><b>Reviews</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The 2021 Victorian Parliamentary <i>Inquiry into Anti-vilification Protections</i> made 17 non-legislative recommendations that aim to better understand and prevent vilification, 16 of which are directed at government. These include that the government develop and fund strategies, education and training packages, public awareness campaigns, data monitoring and retention methods, and other tools, to help address the underlying drivers of vilification. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ The government has been consulting and engaging with key stakeholders to work on implementation of the 16 non-legislative reforms directed at government. Responsibility for implementation sits with the Department of Justice and Community Safety, Department of Premier and Cabinet, Department of Education, Department of Families, Fairness and Housing and Victoria Police.</li> <li>○ Some of the non-legislative recommendations align with the government’s new state-wide <a href="#">Anti-Racism Strategy</a>, which will work to proactively prevent and address racism in Victoria. This includes initiatives to support people subjected to racism and vilification including through the Local Anti-Racism Initiatives (LARI) Grants Program; a series of local anti-racism networks; a state-wide anti-racism campaign in community sport; programs to prevent racism and discrimination in workplaces and policing; and community-led anti-vilification awareness raising initiatives.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• The government also funds several services supporting communities who experience vilification. These include the legal service Q+Law, which was established in 2023 to improve access to justice for LGBTIQ+ Victorians. Additionally, in partnership with the Victorian Government, the Northern Community Support Group (CSG), provides support to Muslim communities in Melbourne’s northern suburbs. Through its community programs and bespoke case management function, the Northern CSG works with culturally diverse communities to improve access to services that may not have otherwise been accessed.</li> <li>• With support from the government, the Victorian Equal Opportunity and Human Rights Commission developed a research report and evidence-based tool kit for preventing prejudice and vilification. The report responds to recommendation 3 from the <i>Inquiry into Anti-Vilification Protections</i>.</li> <li>• The 2022 Legislative Council Legal and Social Issues Committee’s <i>Inquiry into Extremism in Victoria</i> made 12 recommendations to strengthen Victoria’s response to violent extremism, increase social cohesion and build trust in government. This included recommendation 3, for the Victorian Government to continue implementing the recommendations of the <i>Inquiry into Anti-vilification Protections</i>. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ As of August 2025, the Victorian Government has acquitted 11 of the 12 Inquiry recommendations. Recommendation 1 (relating to building public trust in Parliament) is still in progress, with additional work required to fully acquit this recommendation.</li> <li>○ Work delivered through the implementation of the Inquiry recommendations includes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• evaluations of CVE programs, providing assurance of their effectiveness and adaptation to the evolving extremism landscape</li> <li>• development of a whole-of-government preventing and countering violent extremism strategy and action plan</li> <li>• introduction of new policies to help combat violent extremism and vilification, including racism in schools</li> <li>• development of new education programs that improve digital and critical literacy skills among young people</li> <li>• capability-building initiatives for Victoria’s youth workers</li> <li>• enhanced public communications.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> </li> <li>• Victoria’s landmark Multicultural Review, released in September 2025, provided 41 recommendations for how government can better address social cohesion challenges, strengthen community harmony and support multicultural and multifaith communities to thrive. The government’s initial response includes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ developing a whole-of-government multicultural strategy, led by the Premier</li> <li>○ introducing a Social Cohesion Values Commitment for all organisations that receive government grants</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

- establishing a \$5 million Multicultural Communities Capacity Building Fund
- investing \$925,000 in a Multicultural Museums Program
- recognising interpreting and translating services as essential services for multicultural communities and strengthening their quality and sustainability
- requiring Cabinet submissions to include a multicultural affairs impact statement.

#### Advisory bodies and Reference Groups

- On 7 July 2025 the Victorian Government announced the establishment of the Anti-Hate Taskforce, which is a coordinating body for whole of government responses to rising incidents of hate. The Taskforce includes representatives from government including the Premier, Minister for Police, Victoria Police and the Lord Mayor of Melbourne – with membership to expand over time.
- In December 2024, Victoria established the Local Escalation and Help (LEAH) group, made up of representatives of Jewish community groups, government departments and local councils, providing a direct channel of communication on critical issues between government and the community.
- The [Anti-Racism Taskforce](#), established in 2021, provides strategic advice and recommendations to ensure the anti-racism strategy delivers a clear and targeted roadmap to reduce racism and discrimination in Victoria.
- The Victorian Government’s [Countering Violent Extremism Expert Advisory Committee](#) meets quarterly and provides strategic, independent advice to government on preventing and countering violent extremism matters, policies and programs.

#### Strategies

- The [Victorian Government Anti-Racism Strategy 2024-29](#) is a 5-year, whole of government strategy to guide efforts to stop racism, challenge racist behaviours and attitudes and remove barriers caused by racism.
- [Victoria’s Strategy for Preventing and Countering Extremism 2025–2028](#) articulates the Victorian Government’s commitment to protecting the community from violent extremism through multi-agency, contemporary interventions, programs and tailored initiatives.

#### Public campaign

- The [Seen and Heard project](#) was developed by the Australian Human Rights Commission (AHRC), in collaboration with the Victorian Equal Opportunity and Human Rights Commission (VEOHRC), to support Arab, Jewish, Muslim and Palestinian communities in Australia facing increased racism in the aftermath of 7 October 2023 and the recent conflict in the Middle East. Insights from consultations with community members and leaders will shape a national anti-racism social media campaign focused on amplifying the voices and experiences of affected communities, as well as generating greater empathy and awareness among the public.
- A state-wide anti-racism campaign in community sport is being developed by the Centre for Multicultural Youth, in partnership with Koorie Heritage Trust and Victorian Aboriginal Community Services Association Ltd. The campaign is working with seven state sporting associations (AFL, Basketball, Cricket, Football, Netball, NRL, and Tennis), Vicsport and VicHealth to prevent and address racism in sport. It is expected to launch in 2026.
- Implementation of the strengthened civil anti-vilification protections in the *Justice Legislation Amendment (Anti-Vilification and Social Cohesion) Act 2025* will be supported by educational activities for the community prior to commencement in April 2026.

#### Programs and policies

- Combatting Antisemitism Program with \$3 million provided to key Jewish community organisations to deliver community-led awareness raising and resilience building activities.
- Combatting Islamophobia Program with \$3 million allocated for community-led projects to build awareness of Islamophobia, strengthening reporting pathways and deliver targeted supports for Muslim women and young people.
- The Jewish Community Security Infrastructure Program with \$950,000 to improve the safety of community organisations and synagogues.
- Victorian Safer Faith-based Schools Program aims to ensure students at faith-based schools including Jewish schools can access education free from violence and harassment and deter crime directed at faith-based school communities.
- The Local Anti-Racism Initiatives (LARI) Grants Program 2024-26 provided \$2.44 million to First Peoples, multicultural and multifaith organisations to deliver anti-racism projects across Victoria. Projects are working to embed anti-racist practices at the grassroots level; provide local community support for those who experience racism; and improve reporting of racist incidents.
- VEOHRC is also leading an anti-racism pilot for employers, titled, ‘Better than that: building anti-racist workplaces’, building on the guideline. The scheme will create an anti-racism framework for Victorian workplaces, develop free audit and capability tools and build anti-racism capability among employers.
- On 16 December 2025, the Premier announced a package of almost \$2 million to ensure the Jewish community feel safe and supported, following the antisemitic terror attack at Bondi Beach. Funding includes:
  - \$900,000 for the Community Support Group to deploy further security measures at forthcoming events and school holiday programs
  - \$250,000 to increase security at youth summer camps
  - \$100,000 each for the Jewish Community Council of Victoria and the Rabbinical Council of Victoria
  - \$280,000 for Jewish Care to deliver mental health supports, expanded outreach to young people and expanded outreach to Orthodox Jewish communities.
- The Victorian Fixated Threat Assessment Centre aims to prevent and counter the threat posed by fixated individuals and grievance-fuelled lone actors through joint mental health and policing responses.
- Victoria Police intervention programs directly support and engage with people assessed as radicalising to violent extremism in the community and custodial settings. It includes the Community Integration Support Program (CISP) and the Network for Intervention and Tailored Engagement (NITE).

- Legislated early intervention support programs under the *Terrorism (Community Protect) Act 2003* (Vic) include:
  - the Voluntary Case Management (VCM) program (led by DJCS) which provides support to people who are vulnerable to violent extremism.
  - the Support and Engagement Order Scheme (led by DJCS), which allows a court to order that a person follow a tailored support and engagement plan.
- The Centre for Resilient and Inclusive Societies (CRIS funded by DJCS) delivers local policy-relevant research focused on understanding and building resilience to contemporary forms of extremist hate, mobilisation and violence that threaten Victorian social cohesion. In 2025:
  - CRIS published a number of new research reports, including on [the capacity of current interventions to address far-right radicalisation](#), [a new intervention against racist misinformation](#), and [the role of anti-women attitudes in extremism](#).
  - DJCS and CRIS co-hosted a showcase for Victorian Government policymakers and practitioners on CRIS's recent research outputs and findings, as well as potential applications for Victorian Government work.
  - DJCS funded CRIS to undertake 3 further projects, designed to translate existing CRIS research into practical strategies that will inform and improve Countering Violent Extremism (CVE) policies and programs in Victoria. These projects focus on far-right radicalisation, disrupting racist mis/disinformation, and improving trust flows between communities and government in Victoria.
- In April 2025, DJCS supported the launch of the [Tackling Hate Lab](#), a multi-institution research hub. The lab conducts original data-driven research on ideology and prejudice-driven behaviours, including vilification, and shares emerging research in the space.
- The Northern Community Support Group (CSG) provides support to Muslim communities in Melbourne's northern suburbs. Through its community programs and bespoke case management function, the Northern CSG works with culturally diverse communities to improve access to services which may not have otherwise been accessed, and helps prevent and counter anti-social behaviours, including violent extremism.
- Six Community Support Groups (CSGs), administered by the Youth portfolio, support young people aged 12 to 25 years old and their families from Somali, Afghan and South Sudanese communities in Melbourne's north, west and south-east.
- CSGs deliver a range of early intervention and primary prevention initiatives which aim to build community resilience and social cohesion by strengthening protective factors against anti-social behaviours and violent extremism. CSGs employ bicultural workers, deliver individual supports and group activities, and work in partnership with local services, community, and religious leaders to promote tolerance.
- In 2026, DJCS will work with the UK-based social enterprise Moonshot to develop and deliver a Commonwealth-funded online early intervention to prevent violent extremism. The 6-month intervention aims to divert younger adults (aged 18 to 35) in Victoria from violent extremist content and reduce their susceptibility to violent extremist messaging and mis/disinformation.
- In 2025, DJCS published 6 CVE webpages on the Victorian Government website that provide information on recognising signs of violent extremism, reporting, and accessing support services and programs. The webpages aim to increase public knowledge, reporting, and engagement with early intervention programs.
- As part of acknowledgement of the International Day to Combat Islamophobia in March 2025, Multicultural Affairs has developed a suite of resources, in consultation with Muslim community representatives, to combat Islamophobia. The resources aim to build awareness of the impacts of Islamophobia within the broader Victorian community and highlight safe referral and support pathways for those who experience Islamophobia. Resources are expected to be released in 2026.
- Courage to Care (C2C) aims to build understanding of racism and inspire participants to be 'upstanders', challenging participants to consider the impact of their own actions and attitudes.
- In alignment with Child Safe Standards 1 and 5, the Preventing and Addressing Racism in Schools policy supports Victorian government schools to strengthen culturally safe and inclusive approaches to preventing, responding to and reporting racism, religious intolerance and racial and religious vilification.

## Standing Council of Attorneys-General - Responses to Antisemitism and Islamophobia – Northern Territory anti-vilification measures

Jurisdiction	Table 1 - Civil laws which specifically protect against vilification/hate speech/conduct
Northern Territory	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Section 20A of the <i>Anti-Discrimination Act 1992</i> (NT) provides that a person must not do an act that is reasonably likely, in all the circumstances, to incite hatred towards, serious contempt for or severe ridicule of, another person or a group of people, and is done because of an attribute of the other person or of some or all of the people in the group. The provision does not apply to an act done in private.               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ The list of attributes for the purpose of s 20A is long and includes: race; language, including signed language; sex; gender identity; sexual orientation; age; relationship status; accommodation status; employment status; employment in sex work or engaging in sex work, including past employment in sex work or engagement in sex work; pregnancy; carer responsibilities; breastfeeding; HIV/hepatitis status; subjected to domestic violence; trade union or employer association activity; religious belief or activity; political opinion, affiliation or activity; irrelevant medical record; irrelevant criminal record; association with a person who has, or is believed to have, an attribute.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>Public online behaviour, such as making posts or content and commenting on other posts or content would be covered by s20A. However, direct messaging and similar private behaviour is unlikely to be covered.</p>

Jurisdiction	Table 2 - Criminal laws which specifically protect against vilification/hate speech/conduct
Northern Territory	<p><b>Criminal offences:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Section 46C of the <i>Summary Offences Act 1923</i> provides it is an offence to interrupt or disturb persons lawfully assembled for religious worship, and to assault a person lawfully officiating or assembled at such a meeting (maximum penalty six months imprisonment). This offence acknowledges the right to practice religion in peace and to reflect community condemnation of interference with that right.</li> <li>• Section 125 of the <i>Criminal Code</i> provides an offence of offering violence to officiating ministers of religion, covering threat or attempt to prevent lawful officiating of a minister of religion, or obstruct while officiating, or assault or arrest under pretence of a civil process a minister engaging or performing in religious duty (maximum penalty 2 years imprisonment).</li> <li>• Section 53 of the <i>Criminal Code</i> provides an offence of display of support for unlawful organisation, covering wearing an item of dress or wear, carry or display a sign or article in a public place (or place with intention to be seen by public) that infers a person is a member or supporter of an unlawful organisation (maximum penalty 6 months imprisonment). <i>Unlawful organisation</i> is defined as an organisation that uses, threatens to use or advocates the use of unlawful violence in the Territory to achieve its ends.</li> </ul> <p><b>Sentence aggravation or penalty enhancement</b></p> <p>Section 6A(1)(e) of the <i>Sentencing Act 1995</i> (NT) provides that the fact that an offence was motivated by hate against a group of people may be regarded as an aggravating factor for the purpose of sentencing.</p>

Jurisdiction	Table 3 - Reviews or reforms currently in progress
Northern Territory	See Table 1 above

Jurisdiction	Table 4 - Other current or recent (within last 3 years) best practice initiatives relating to preventing/addressing vilification, including commissioned research
Northern Territory	The <i>Anti-Discrimination Amendment Act 2025</i> amended section 20A anti-vilification provision to replace “offend, insult, humiliate or intimidate” with “incites hatred, serious contempt or severe ridicule”. The effect of this amendment is that the threshold is moved from a harms-based approach considering the impact of conduct to establish vilification to a preventative approach that aims to address the conduct of vilification.

## Standing Council of Attorneys-General - Responses to Antisemitism and Islamophobia - Tasmania anti-vilification measures

Jurisdiction	Table 1 - Civil laws which specifically protect against vilification/hate speech/conduct
Tasmania	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Section 19 of the <i>Anti-Discrimination Act 1998</i> (TAS) provides that a person, by a public act, must not incite hatred towards, serious contempt for, or severe ridicule of, a person or a group of persons on the ground of race, disability, sexual orientation or lawful sexual activity, religious belief or affiliation or religious activity, or gender identity or sex characteristics.</li> <li>• Section 19 applies to online vilification, provided that it was communicated to, distributed to, disseminated to or observable by the public.</li> <li>• Section 17 of the <i>Anti-Discrimination Act</i> prohibits any conduct which offends, humiliates, intimidates, insults or ridicules another person on the basis of an attribute including race.</li> <li>• Section 20 of the <i>Anti-Discrimination Act</i> provides that a person must not display or cause or permit to be published or displayed, any sign, notice or advertising matter that promotes, expresses or depicts discrimination (including on the grounds of race, religious belief or affiliation and religious activity) or prohibited conduct including conduct prohibited by sections 19 and 17.</li> <li>• In Tasmania, a person who has faced a public act of vilification contrary to section 19 or other prohibited conduct contrary to sections 17 and 20, can lodge a complaint with the Tasmanian Anti-Discrimination Commissioner.</li> </ul>

Jurisdiction	Table 2 - Criminal laws which specifically protect against vilification/hate speech/conduct
Tasmania	<p><b>Criminal offences:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Tasmania does not have a standalone vilification, hate speech or conduct offence.</li> <li>• Section 6C of the <i>Police Offences Act 1935</i> (TAS) provides that a person must not, by a public act and without a legitimate purpose, display a Nazi symbol if the person knows, or ought to know, that the symbol is a Nazi symbol. Maximum penalty: a fine not exceeding 20 penalty units or imprisonment for a term not exceeding 3 months. Penalty for a second or subsequent offence committed by the person within a 6-month period – a fine not exceeding 40 penalty units or imprisonment for a term not exceeding 6 months.</li> <li>• Section 6D of the <i>Police Offences Act 1935</i> (TAS) provides that a person must not perform a Nazi gesture if the person knows, or ought to know, that the gesture is a Nazi gesture; and the gesture is performed by the person in a public place or in a place where, if another person were in a public place, the gesture would be visible to the other person. Maximum penalty: a fine not exceeding 20 penalty units or imprisonment for a term not exceeding 3 months. Penalty for a second or subsequent offence committed by the person within a 6-month period – a fine not exceeding 40 penalty units or imprisonment for a term not exceeding 6 months.</li> </ul> <p><b>Sentence aggravation or penalty enhancement</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• On 23 December 2025 amendments to the <i>Sentencing Act 1997</i> (TAS) commenced that respond to the recommendations made in the Sentencing Advisory Council’s 2024 Report ‘Prejudice and Discrimination as Aggravating Factors in Sentencing’ that proposed improving the way that the Sentencing Act captures hateful or prejudicial offending.</li> <li>• The amendments to the Act expanded the scope of aggravating factors that apply when sentencing for an offence motivated by hate or prejudice to include attributes other than race, provide an alternative demonstrated hostility test for establishing the aggravating factor and inserted a new provision to capture discriminatory targeting based on vulnerability or personal circumstances.</li> <li>• The expansion of scope for the aggravating factors is reflected in illustrative and non-exhaustive lists of attributes that are now included in sections 11B and 11BA of the Sentencing Act. The attributes include the race, ethnicity or nationality of a person or member of a group of persons, or their religious belief or affiliation.</li> </ul>

Jurisdiction	Table 3 - Reviews or reforms currently in progress
Tasmania	

Jurisdiction	Table 4 - Other current or recent (within last 3 years) best practice initiatives relating to preventing/addressing vilification, including commissioned research
Tasmania	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Tasmania Police has committed to the Community Engagement Strategy 2025-2028 to increase community engagement and access to services and help earn the trust of vulnerable communities.</li> <li>• The position of Multicultural Liaison Officer at Tasmania Police has been put in place to manage multicultural issues of a statewide impact, such as racism and harassment.</li> </ul>

## Standing Council of Attorneys-General - Responses to Antisemitism and Islamophobia – New South Wales anti-vilification measures

Jurisdiction	Table 1 - Civil laws which specifically protect against vilification/hate speech/conduct
New South Wales	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The <i>Anti-Discrimination Act 1977</i> (NSW) (the ADA) makes it unlawful for a person, by a public act, to incite hatred towards, serious contempt for, or severe ridicule of, a person or group of persons on the ground of race (s 20C), homosexuality (s 49ZT), HIV/AIDS status (s 49ZXB), transgender status (s 38S) and religion (s 49ZE).</li> <li>• A person who has faced a public act of vilification contrary to the ADA can lodge a complaint with Anti-Discrimination NSW.</li> <li>• In NSW, individuals can make complaints of vilification under the ADA in respect of material published on the internet: see <i>Gaynor v Attorney General of New South Wales</i> [2020] NSWCA 48. While some Tribunal cases suggests that these complaints can be substantiated even where the conduct or content originates in another jurisdiction, this has not yet been considered by a superior court.</li> </ul>

Jurisdiction	Table 2 - Criminal laws which specifically protect against vilification/hate speech/conduct
New South Wales	<p><b>Criminal offences:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Section 93Z of the <i>Crimes Act 1900</i> (NSW) makes it an offence for a person to, by public act, intentionally or recklessly threaten or incite violence towards another person or a group of persons on the grounds of race, a specific religious belief or affiliation, sexual orientation, gender identity, intersex status, or HIV or AIDS status. Maximum penalty: 3 years imprisonment and/or a fine of \$11,000 (individuals), or a fine of \$55,000 (corporations).</li> <li>• Section 93ZA of the <i>Crimes Act 1900</i> (NSW) prohibits a person knowingly displaying, by a public act and without reasonable excuse, a Nazi symbol. Maximum penalty:             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ 200 penalty units and/or 2 years imprisonment (individual) or 1,000 penalty units (corporation) if the symbol is displayed on or near a synagogue, Jewish school or the Sydney Jewish Museum</li> <li>○ 100 penalty units and/or 12 months imprisonment (individual) or 500 penalty units (corporation) if the symbol is displayed anywhere else.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Proposed section 93ZA (Crimes and Summary Offences Amendment Bill 2025) will amend the above offence to include an offence for knowingly engaging by public act and without reasonable excuse support for Nazi ideology. This offence carries the same penalty as outlined above. It further provides that a police officer may direct a person to remove from display a suspected Nazi symbol, with non-compliance attracting a maximum penalty of 20 penalty units or 3 months imprisonment or both.</li> <li>• Section 93ZAA of the <i>Crimes Act 1900</i> (NSW) makes it an offence for a person, by a public act, to intentionally incites hatred towards another person or a group of persons on the ground of race, if the public act would cause a reasonable person who was the target of the public act to fear harassment, intimidation or violence, or fear for the reasonable person’s safety. Maximum penalty: 100 penalty units and/or imprisonment for 2 years (individual) or 500 penalty units (corporation).</li> <li>• Section 93ZB of the <i>Crimes Act 1900</i> (NSW) makes it an offence to knowingly display by public act and without reasonable excuse a prohibited terrorist organisation symbol. The maximum penalty for an individual is 200 penalty units or 2 years imprisonment or both.</li> <li>• Section 4 of the <i>Graffiti Control Act 2008</i> (NSW) makes it an offence for a person, without reasonable excuse, to intentionally mark a place of worship, without the consent of the owner or occupier. Maximum penalty: 20 penalty units or imprisonment for 12 months.</li> <li>• Section 214B of the <i>Crimes Act 1900</i> (NSW) makes it an offence for a person in or near a place of worship, without reasonable excuse, to intentionally block, impede or hinder a person accessing or leaving, or attempting to access or leave, the place of worship, or to harass, intimidate or threaten a person accessing or leaving, or attempting to access or leave, the place of worship. Maximum penalty: 200 penalty units and/or 2 years imprisonment.</li> </ul> <p><b>Sentence aggravation or penalty enhancement:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Section 21A(2)(h) of the <i>Crimes (Sentencing Procedure) Act 1999</i> (NSW) provides that it is an aggravating factor to be taken into account in sentencing that the offence was partially or wholly motivated by hatred for or prejudice against a group of people to which the offender believed the victim belonged (such as people of a particular religion, racial or ethnic origin, language, gender identity, sexual orientation or age, or having particular variations of sex characteristics or a particular disability).</li> </ul>

Jurisdiction	Table 3 - Reviews or reforms currently in progress
New South Wales	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The NSW Law Reform Commission is undertaking a review of the <i>Anti-Discrimination Act 1977</i> (NSW). The terms of reference for the review include ‘the adequacy of protections against vilification, including (but not limited to) whether these protections should be harmonised with the criminal law’ and ‘whether the Act should include positive obligations to prevent harassment, discrimination and vilification’. The Commission has sent out the first Consultation Paper and requested feedback by 15 August 2025. More information about the review is available at <a href="https://lawreform.nsw.gov.au/current-projects/anti-discrimination-act-review.html">https://lawreform.nsw.gov.au/current-projects/anti-discrimination-act-review.html</a>.</li> <li>On 8 May 2025 the NSW Attorney General Michael Daley appointed former NSW Supreme Court Justice the Honourable John Sackar AM KC, to review criminal law hate speech protections for vulnerable communities. Mr Sackar will examine whether existing protections are sufficient and recommend any possible improvements, following the passage of the <i>Crimes Amendment (Inciting Racial Hatred) Act 2025</i> criminalising the intentional incitement of racial hatred.</li> <li>The NSW Standing Legislative Committee on Law and Safety has <a href="#">reviewed Measures to prohibit slogans that incite hate</a> (reported on 30 January 2026)</li> <li>The NSW Standing Legislative Committee on Law and Safety is reviewing Measures to Combat Right-wing extremism – <a href="#">interim report</a> released 6 February 2026 (final report due in April 2026)</li> </ul>

Jurisdiction	Table 4 - Other current or recent (within last 3 years) best practice initiatives relating to preventing/addressing vilification, including commissioned research
New South Wales	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The <i>Anti-Discrimination Act 1977</i> (NSW) empowers Anti-Discrimination NSW to attempt to conciliate complaints in order to resolve the issue between the parties.</li> <li>Legal Aid NSW makes available a variety of resources on its website as part of its campaign ‘Stop Public Threats’. These resources include information on civil and criminal protections in New South Wales against public threats of violence/incitement to violence, vilification, discrimination and victimisation.</li> </ul> <p><b><u>Multicultural NSW (MNSW)</u></b></p> <p>MNSW has five initiatives:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The <b>NSW Community Resilience and Response Plan (COMPLAN)</b>: aims to equip the State to prevent, limit, withstand, respond to, and recover from situations that threaten community harmony. COMPLAN Committee identifies and monitors developments that pose a risk to community harmony, including far-right wing extremist activities, anti-Islamic and antisemitic sentiment, and local community tensions arising from conflicts or political turmoil overseas.</li> <li>The <b>Community Partnership Action (COMPACT) Program</b>: a community resilience-building initiative to counter violent extremism by supporting a community partners. COMPACT funds community-led initiatives mainly targeting young people with an emphasis on intercommunity dialogue and identifying and addressing extremism. <b>The New Point Magazine</b> is a COMPACT strategic communications initiative that mentors and trains young writers and showcases COMPACT initiatives with the aim of addressing hate and extremism.</li> <li><b>The Internet Needs More Humanity: A Remove Hate from the Debate initiative</b>: aims to build an online network committed to building more harmonious online communities.</li> <li>The <b>Safe Places for Faith Communities Grants Program</b>: affords grants to promote community safety, wellbeing and resilience, as well as interfaith harmony and social cohesion.</li> <li>The <b>NSW Faith Affairs Council</b>: established to improve the NSW Government’s understanding and competency in relation to policies, programs, and services that affect religious communities in NSW.</li> </ol> <p><b><u>NSW Police Force (NSWPF)</u></b></p> <p>NSWPF has taken various actions including but not limited to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Internal mandated training</b>: All NSWPF staff were required to undertake training in 2024-25 on hate crime awareness aimed at preventing, disrupting, and responding to hate crime.</li> <li><b>NSWPF Hate Crime Awareness Campaign</b>: Video and print material on how to identify and report hate crime and hate incidents in a variety of languages.</li> <li><b>Hate Crime Awareness Presentations</b>: Delivered to NSWPF Police Area Commands (PACs), Police Districts, Specialist Commands, local councils, principal’s forums, community groups etc. to improve recognition and encourage reporting of hate crimes and incidents.</li> <li><b>University of Technology Sydney (UTS) Policing Hate Crime Course</b>: NSWPF, in partnership with the University of Technology, run a 12-week micro-credential course once a year to provide law enforcement professionals with the knowledge and skills needed to recognise, effectively address, and combat hate crimes and an understanding of the impact of hate crimes on individuals and the community.</li> <li><b>Operation Shelter</b>: coordinates response and gathers intelligence related to community sentiment, potential protest activity, and potential demonstrations that may take place in the future. Also engages with community groups to make decisions about protest activity and coordinates high-visibility patrols at protests.</li> </ol>

Jurisdiction	Table 4 - Other current or recent (within last 3 years) best practice initiatives relating to preventing/addressing vilification, including commissioned research
	<p>6. <b>Strike Force Pearl:</b> established in December 2024 to investigate antisemitic grievance-based offences in Sydney (arson and vandalism). Terms of reference expanded in January 2025 to investigate hate crimes involving significant criminal activity or those of significant public interest.</p> <p>7. <b>Engagement with community advocacy groups:</b> NSWPF works closely with the Jewish Board of Deputies and the NSWPF Engagement and Hate Crime Unit has quarterly engagement with Islamophobia Register Australia, Community Security Group, and LGBTQIA+ communities.</p> <p>8. <b>Hate Crime and Hate Incidents Database:</b> tracks reports of hate crimes and hate incidents and monitors escalating behaviours, hate groups, and hotspots.</p> <p>9. <b>Policing Hate Crime Forum:</b> NSWPF hosted a forum in February 2025 for police officers, aimed at strengthening the network of officers who have completed the UTS Policing Hate Crime Course. The forum sought to build and deepen relationships with community leaders and to further enhance officers' training and knowledge for application in their daily duties.</p> <p><b>Premier's Department</b></p> <p>The Premier's Department have engaged in two direct actions aimed at supporting the Jewish Community, engaged in broader programs addressing hate and extremism, and are responsible for delivering a number of initiatives under the NSW Countering Violent Extremism Program. For their initiatives, the Premier's Department has:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• issued ad hoc grants to Jewish community groups to respond to antisemitic attacks by enhancing security measures and providing intensive psychosocial and physical support to the community; and</li> <li>• matched an \$8.5m Cth grant to upgrade the Sydney Jewish Museum.</li> </ul> <p>The Department of Education:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• has, in conjunction with the Special Envoy for Antisemitism and Special Envoy for Islamophobia, developed resources for students and teachers to combat antisemitism and islamophobia;</li> <li>• is developing new Holocaust curriculum resources for History for grades 7-10 to combat antisemitism; and</li> <li>• is delivering 'Challenging Hateful Misinformation' training to teachers and schools. Premier's Department have supported this and engaged 'All Together Now' – an NGO – to deliver the training; and</li> <li>• has <a href="#">strengthened Code of Conduct requirements</a> to explicitly prohibit hate speech in more than 3,000 government, independent and Catholic schools across the state.</li> </ul> <p>The deliverable initiatives under the NSW Countering Violent Extremism Program are:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Supporting Local Governments: Premier's Department has partnered with Local Government to bolster capability in responding to hate and extremism by       <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. developing an adaptable anti-racism strategy template;</li> <li>b. engaging Macquarie University and the Strong Cities Network to co-design a training package to support their ability to prevent and respond to all forms of hate and extremism; and</li> <li>c. supporting 6 local councils selected under Round 4 of the NSW Social Cohesion Grants for Local Government to support programs which address hate and enhance community cohesion.</li> </ol> </li> <li>2. Leading the <b>Research into Mapping Online Hate in Australia</b> initiative: aims to address the lack of consistent data on the prevalence of online hate in Australia by creating a standardised way to measure and categorise hateful content. Aims to develop a clearer understanding of the relationship between online hate and real-world violence.</li> <li>3. Delivering <b>Safeguarding Social Cohesion</b> Workshops: aims to increase confidence and capacity of local council members and community leaders to support their communities in times of crisis and manage the psychosocial impacts of traumatic events.</li> <li>4. Delivering the <b>Strengthening Youth Resilience to Violent Extremism</b> program: builds the resilience of young men to respond to hateful and extremist influences online and offline. Also seeks to ensure young people are able to establish networks to safely discuss and reflect on their diverse views and experiences.</li> </ol>