

Thought Leadership Series: Panel 1 webcast

Monday 4 April 2022 – 4.30pm – 6.00pm



George Williams AO

Deputy Vice-Chancellor, Anthony Mason Professor and Scientia Professor University of New South Wales.

George has served as Dean of UNSW Law and written and edited books including *Australian Constitutional Law and Theory*, *The Oxford Companion to the High Court of Australia* and *Human Rights under the Australian Constitution*. He has appeared as a barrister in the High Court in many cases over the past two decades, including on freedom of speech, freedom from racial discrimination and the rule of law. He has also appeared in the Supreme Court and Court of Appeal of Fiji, including on

the legality of the 2000 coup.

As chair of the Victorian Human Rights Consultation Committee in 2005 he helped bring about Australia's first State bill of rights, the Victorian Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities. In 2007 he chaired the NSW Government inquiry into Options for a New National Industrial Relations System that produced the historic referral of State industrial power over the private sector to the Commonwealth. He has also served on a High Level Advisory Group on Federal-State Relations, was a member of the NSW Government's Panel to Examine Recall Elections and assisted the Northern Territory in its attempt to become Australia's seventh State as a member of its Constitutional Convention Committee.

George is a well-known media commentator on legal issues. He has been a columnist for the *Sydney Morning Herald* and *Canberra Times* and an on-air analyst for ABC Television. He is currently a columnist for *The Australian*.



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