

JUSTICE AND INTERNATIONAL MISSION CONVENTION 2021

DETAILS

WHEN

Saturday, November 6 2021
9:30 am – 4:15 pm

WHERE

Online

COST

Free

TO REGISTER

Go to 'www.eventbrite.com' and search for 'Justice and International Mission Convention 2021'. There is no cost to register. The online registration form will allow you to select workshops.

Please register by Monday 1 November, so we can know which workshops have sufficient numbers to run.

If you have any questions about the event or the registration process e-mail Alicia.torres@victas.uca.org.au

OUR FAITH IN DEMOCRACY:

HOW DO YOU HAVE A MEANINGFUL SAY?

Most of the social justice causes church members are concerned about require government action, from addressing climate change, modern slavery, and family violence to the treatment of people seeking asylum and justice for First Peoples. In order to see positive change in our society, we need to care about making government work for the betterment of our community and the world.

Globally, and in Australia, there has been declining trust in democracy as a system of government. On the positive side, people are looking for more meaningful ways to have a say in how our society is run and the laws that govern us than voting in an election every few years. On the negative side, the declining trust in democracy is leading to greater cynicism towards elected governments and all that they do. Such cynicism makes it harder for any reforms of any nature to be introduced by any government.

The Justice and International Mission Convention will explore what the Christian faith has to say on the subject of government and trust in societies. The Convention will also hear from movements seeking to re-energise our democracy and give us a greater say in how government runs.

The Convention will also seek input from participants on the work areas of the Justice and International Mission Cluster.

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KEY SPEAKERS



REV ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR SEAN WINTER

Principal and Co-ordinator of Studies in New Testament, Pilgrim Theological College

In 2009 Sean was appointed as Coordinator of Studies in New Testament at the Uniting Church Theological College, now Pilgrim Theological College. In 2015, he became Academic Dean at Pilgrim, and from 2018 has served as the College Principal. He teaches and writes about issues relating to the historical Jesus and has an ongoing interest in issues of hermeneutics with a focus on the writings of Dietrich Bonhoeffer.



JOLENE ELBERTH

Democracy Campaigner, Australian Conservation Foundation (ACF)

Jolene leads the ACF's work to address the systemic issues with our political system that drive ecological unsustainability. Prior to joining ACF, Jolene spent years as a grassroots community organiser working with directly impacted communities to build political power and win policy change.



DR MILLIE ROONEY

National Coordinator, Australia reMADE

Millie has a research background with a PhD in local community and social norms around neighbourhood sharing and community building. Working with Australia reMADE she has the privilege of listening to people reflect on their hopes and dreams for this country.

DAMIAN CARMICHAEL

Commonwealth Department of Industry, Science, Energy and Resources

Damian has had 25 years' public sector experience in policy and service delivery and has held leadership positions in Canberra, the States and Territories and overseas. He led a project examining the barriers to Commonwealth public servants better engaging with the community. The project also examined how the public service can more meaningfully provide opportunities for members of the community to participate in policy development and design of services.



SAFFRON ZOMER

Executive Director, Australian Democracy Network

Saffron is a lawyer, campaigner and political strategist. Prior to the Australian Democracy Network, Saffron was Government Relations Manager at the Australian Conservation Foundation. In 2017, Saffron co-founded and led the Hands Off Our Charities Alliance which secured critical changes to 2017 Electoral Act amendments to protect the rights of civil society organisations to engage in advocacy.

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PROGRAM

9.30AM
Introduction, acknowledgement of country and opening worship

9.45AM
KEYNOTE ADDRESS

Rev Associate Professor Sean Winter, Pilgrim Theological College, on a Christian view of forms of government and the role of trust in a society

10.30AM
Break

11AM
PANEL

Jolene Elberth, Democracy Campaigner, Australian Conservation Foundation
On the findings of how Australians see our democracy

Millie Rooney, Australia reMADE
On the a vision of a better Australia to unite the Australian community

Damian Carmichael, Commonwealth Department of Industry, Science, Energy and Resources
On what the Commonwealth Government is doing to increase opportunities for democratic participation

Saffron Zomer, Australian Democracy Network
On reforms to reduce corporate influence in our democracy

12.20PM
Lightning talks
One minute presentations about what you are doing in your church or community on social justice. Please register your interest in advance if you would like to make a presentation.

12.35PM
Break

1:15PM
First Round of Workshops

2PM
Break

2.15PM
Second Round of Workshops

3PM
Discussion on the direction and work areas of the JIM Cluster

4PM
Closing worship

4.15PM
Finish

WORKSHOP OPTIONS

Workshops will be run based on the number of participants. Workshops will not run where there are not enough participants to make them worthwhile. Each workshop will aim to look for a specific way forward in each area.

1. What does the public good mean and how do we get people interested in it? – Tim Molineux, Synod Social Justice Officer and Millie Rooney, Australia reMADE will explain how you can get your community involved.

2. How do we reduce corporate influence in subverting our democracy? – Saffron Zomer, Australian Democracy Network will outline how you can get involved.

3. Increasing engagement with your local MPs and the political process so your voice can be heard – Mark Zirnsak, Senior Social Justice Advocate

4. The need for a National Integrity Commission to address corruption and foster good government – Serena Lilywhite, Transparency International Australia will outline the campaigning options you can join in on.

