

Australia is having a conversation about the **Voice referendum** being held later this year.



It's about whether we should change the Constitution to recognise the First Peoples of Australia by establishing an Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Voice.

The Constitution outlines the rules by which Australia is governed, and can only be changed through a referendum.



Why is the Voice referendum happening?

Australia has been talking about recognising First Nations peoples in the Constitution for more than a decade.

In 2017, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people from across the country came together. They considered all the options for recognition. They wrote the Uluru Statement from the Heart, which called for a Voice for First Nations peoples to be added to the Constitution.

In 2022, the Australian Government agreed to have a referendum to let Australians decide whether to establish the Voice in the Constitution.



How would the Voice work?

The Voice would be an independent and permanent advisory body.

It would give advice to the Australian Parliament and Government on matters that affect the lives of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.



Do I need to vote?

Voting in the referendum is compulsory for all eligible Australian citizens aged 18 years and over.

Get informed.

[Voice.gov.au](https://voice.gov.au)



Australian Government