

INTRODUCING AMAN

AMAN (Australian Muslim Advocacy Network) is a registered, national organization intended to advocate for the protection of Muslims in Australia. Our aim is to play an integral part in the fostering of social harmony between all Australians and to counteract current perceptions of Islam and Muslims. After much consultation, AMAN was registered in 2014 when levels of Islamophobia peaked in Australia, driven in large part by disingenuous and malevolent articles like that of Peter Leahy claiming western society is likely to fight “*radical*” Islam for 100 years. An unfounded, bigoted view of Islam and Muslims per se.

Peter Leahy’s arguments failed to tell the whole story. The impact foreign policy of many western nations including Australia, was having on individuals and groups who identified as Muslim. This, amongst a number of other ideological attacks, translated to a high level of physical assaults on Muslims around the country.

Driven by a need to present an alternative narrative to the Australian public, and after significant consultation with people around the country AMAN was formally constituted in 2014. It has taken some time bring together an excellent team of contributors to the organisation and to date we have the following board of directors;

- (Prof) Dr Mohamad Abdalla - QLD
- Mariam Veiszadeh - NSW
- Miriam Silva - SA
- Prof Abdullah Saeed – VIC
- Hilal Yassine – NSW
- Dr Mustafa Ally
- Kemal Omar

Our Executive Council consists of

- Silma Ihram - NSW
- Adel Salman - VIC

Broadly speaking, AMAN is focussed on:

- i. Promoting a better understanding of Islam and Muslims to the media and public by providing alternative narratives to misrepresentations.
- ii. Working towards the prevention of the marginalisation of Muslims
- iii. Counteracting Islamophobia and promoting the common welfare of Muslims.
- iv. Engaging with politicians and government to secure the protections of Muslims in Australia.
- v. Making available professional Muslim experts in various fields to assist government in
- vi. Policy decision making that affect Muslims and guarantees the ongoing safety and security of all who live here.

AMAN will in the near future conduct a series of information sessions around the country informing the community about its aims and objectives and seeking its support to achieve the lofty objective of contributing to a harmonious society inclusive of all in the country we now call home.