



# National Security Election Snapshot

## Domestic Security

National security has been prominent in Australia's 2022 Federal Election campaign. This document is part of a series that intends to provide a snapshot of some priorities and targets from the different political parties in the lead-up to the election.

The risks to Australia's domestic security has changed in recent years, with espionage and foreign interference outpacing terrorism as a top security threat. Both state and non-state malicious actors seek to interfere with Australian politics, democratic processes, and critical infrastructure. Ideologically motivated extremism has also overtaken religious extremism as Australia's primary terrorism concern, a trend exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic. Emerging technologies, such as artificial intelligence (AI) and quantum computing, are changing the landscape both of threat and response, including the operation of intelligence agencies. The boundary is blurring between domestic security, defence, international policy and overall national resilience, including in economic/energy security and the protection of critical infrastructure.

## The Australian Liberal Party and Australian National Party Coalition (The Coalition)

Seats in Parliament (as of April 2022): House of Representatives – 76 and Senate – 36

- **Passed** legislation to cancel the citizenship of dual nationals who engage in terrorism related conduct. 21 individuals have lost their citizenship as a result.
- **Passed** the Surveillance Legislation Amendment (Identify and Disrupt) (SLAID) Bill, allowing law enforcement to intercept, modify, and disrupt data to frustrate serious criminal offences. The Bill passed both Houses on 25 August 2021.
- **Committed** an extra \$1.3 billion in funding in the 2021/22 Federal Budget to Australian Security Intelligence Organisation (ASIO) over the next 10 years from 2021.
- **Invested** in capabilities of the Australian Cyber Security Centre (ACSC) with a focus on enhancing capabilities to protect critical networks and infrastructure, as well as increasing offensive cyber capability.
- **Passed** legislation to enhance the scrutiny, management and operation of critical infrastructure assets, to introduce mandatory incident reporting for critical infrastructure entities that experience serious cyber security incidents and allow Government to assist industry to respond to immediate attacks on Australian systems.
- **Included** as part of its **2020 Cyber Security Strategy**, \$8.3 million towards improving resilience of critical infrastructure entities.
- **Instituted** a Supply Chain Resilience Initiative as part of the \$1.5 billion **Modern Manufacturing Strategy** to combat supply chain vulnerability.
- Has **released** the Fuel Security Package through boosting Australia's refining sector, with the aim to secure sovereign fuel stocks and continuing the retention and creation of jobs.

# The Australian Labor Party

Seats in Parliament (as of April 2022): House of Representatives – 68 and Senate – 26

- [Supports](#) a greater focus on right-wing extremism and radicalisation as an ongoing threat to Australia.
- [Supports](#) declaring the Proud Boys a proscribed terror organisation. [Note: The Proud Boys are an American far-right organisation and have been listed as a terrorist entity in Canada.]
- [Committed](#) to establishing a National Anti-Scam Centre and a Minister with direct portfolio responsibility for protecting against online fraud, misleading conduct, and deceptive practices.
- [Committed](#) to creating the National Anti-Corruption Commission to operate as a standing Royal Commission into serious and systemic corruption in the federal government.
- [Supported](#) SLAID Bill passed by the Coalition.
- [Proposed](#) appointing a dedicated cybersecurity Minister. [Note: responsibility for cybersecurity is currently split across the ministers for Defence, Home Affairs, and Communications.]
- [Advocating](#) for a National Ransomware Strategy, aimed at reducing the number of ransomware on Australian targets. The strategy includes a clear framework on offensive ransomware groups, sanctioning ransomware groups and closing the 'cyber enforcement gap'.
- Has [planned](#) for a National Strategic Fleet that aims to underpin the security of supply for critical commodities, like fuel.
- [Supported](#) the 2020 Critical Infrastructure Bill.

# The Australian Greens Party

Seats in Parliament (as of April 2022): House of Representatives – 1 and Senate – 9

- [Supports](#) the legalisation of cannabis to disempower organised criminal gangs involved in production and supply and counter criminal activity.
- [Supports](#) a national anti-racism strategy to tackle right-wing extremism.
- [Supports](#) targeting social and economic inequalities to reduce the threat of terrorism.
- [Raised](#) human rights concerns with the SLAID Bill and proposed amendments that would strengthen accountability mechanisms.
- [Supports](#) achieving fuel security through the use of renewable energy.
- [Supports cancelling](#) future loan repayments from all countries in the [Global South](#) which owe a debt directly to Australia.
- [Advocates](#) for other financial institutions and foreign governments to cancel outstanding debt payments from countries in the [Global South](#).

# Centre Alliance

Seats in Parliament (as of April 2022): House of Representatives – 1 and Senate – 1

- [Does not support](#) removing citizenship from overseas terrorists, instead supports extraditing terrorists to be tried and imprisoned in Australia.
- Supports lowering/[Lower](#) the existing Foreign Investment Review Board (FIRB) threshold (currently \$252 million) so that all proposed [overseas](#) transactions greater than \$5 million are subject to greater criticism.
- Supports/[Have](#) a foreign investment register of key assets to promote greater transparency. Argues that foreign investment would be lower if there were greater incentives for Australians to invest in Australia.

## Katter's Australia Party

Seats in Parliament (as of April 2022): House of Representatives – 1 and Senate – 0

- **Supported** Parliamentary Joint Committee for Intelligence and Security (PJCIS) inquiry into foreign interference presence in Australian universities. [Note: The PJCIS is Parliament's intelligence oversight mechanism.]
- **Supports** restricting Australian oil exports to ensure fuel supply chain security.

## The United Australia Party

Seats in Parliament (as of April 2022): House of Representatives – 1 and Senate – 0

- **Believes** COVID-19 measures such as sector-specific vaccine mandates and “vaccine passports” are a threat to democracy.

## Pauline Hanson's One Nation Party

Seats in Parliament (as of April 2022): House of Representatives – 0 and Senate – 2

- **Supports** banning travel and migration from “known extremist countries,” a similar policy to President Trump's US Travel Ban.
- **Committed** to pursue reform to Australia's foreign investment rules by legislating a “clearer” definition of “National Interest”. This would be based on national security, competition, tax, a character test, and any other impacts to Australia.

## Jacque Lambie Network

Seats in Parliament (as of April 2022): House of Representatives – 0 and Senate – 1

- **Called** for a Senate inquiry into the extent of foreign interference from China in Australia's political system.
- **Called** for greater transparency for the process by which political donations are made.

## Rex Patrick Team

Seats in Parliament (as of April 2022): House of Representatives – 0 and Senate – 1

- **Supports** the requirement for Ministers to obtain and maintain a security clearance.
- **Supports** toughening foreign investment rules with more enforceable undertakings and a more effective and efficient regulator.
- **Believes** that the foreign investment application and approval process needs to be more transparent, including disclosure of investor's global tax structures.
- **Expressed** concern that information on foreign investment in Australia is unjustifiably hidden from the public.

**Disclaimer:** The information presented in this document is sourced from public and readily-available sources. The parties mentioned in this document are formally recognised Australian political parties, with an established voting history. Any contextual and explanatory information on policy stances has been researched by ANU National Security College staff.

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