



Australasian Study
of Parliament Group

CONFERENCE ADELAIDE
1 - 3 OCTOBER 2025



Conference Theme

MODERN PARLIAMENTS: CHANGING ROLES, EXPECTATIONS & CHALLENGES

With 2025 bringing another year of political, social and technological change, presenters at this year's conference will examine how the role of parliaments around the world continues to evolve to meet the demands of the modern age, and with it, the expectations of its Members, staff and the communities they represent, including:

- adopting AI and other new technologies to engage more widely with citizens and to modernise parliamentary procedure;
- managing and combatting misinformation;
- taking responsibility as an employer for the wellbeing of Members and staff and responding to external reviews of workplace culture;
- rethinking the role of committees in engaging with the community;
- changing roles and expectations of the core business of parliament; and
- scrutinising Executive spending and policy decisions.



REGISTER NOW

Booking URL: <https://www.trybooking.com/DBXYL>
Registrations close 15 August 2025

Contact: aspg.sa2025@parliament.sa.gov.au

Conference Program

MEETINGS AND FUNCTIONS

Welcome Reception

Government House

5.00pm, Tuesday 30 September

Hosted by Her Excellency the Honourable Frances Adamson AC,
Governor of South Australia

ASPG Annual General Meeting

Watarru Room

Lunch break, Wednesday 1 October

Conference Dinner

Bamboo Pavilion (home to the Pandas), Adelaide Zoo

6.30pm, Thursday 2 October



Conference Program

WEDNESDAY - OCT 1

PLENARY

Engaging with First Nations people

Presenters TBC

PANELS

1 - New Technologies and Parliamentary Engagement

Bridging the Gap – Using Digital Platforms to Reach New Audiences
Anna Ingleton, Parliament of NZ

Online Publication and the Accessibility of Parliamentary Information
Robin Howlett, Legislative Council, Parliament of NSW

From Agora to Algorithm: Reinventing the Public Square in the Digital Age
Will Coad, Parliament of SA

VR, AI, VCs: Embracing Modern Parliamentary Education
Natalie Badcock, Parliament of SA

WEDNESDAY - OCT 1

PANELS

New Technologies and Parliamentary Procedure

Tradition v Transformation: Navigating the Tension Between
Parliamentary Customs and Modernisation

Caitlin Connally, Parliament of Victoria

Out of Bounds - Parliamentary Privilege Considerations When
Witnesses Give Evidence from Outside the State

Verity Smith, Legislative Council, Parliament of NSW

Harnessing Generative-AI in Parliamentary Research: Balancing Risks
and Opportunities

Dr Alba Boer Cueva & Dr Daniel Montoya, Parliament of NSW

Managing Misinformation

We Need to Chat About ChatGPT: A Case Study of a Submission
Written by AI

Dr Merry Brown, Parliament of SA

Managing Misinformation in Electronic Petitions

Kate Roggeveen, House of Representatives, Parliament of Australia

Combatting Misinformation From Inside the House: the Challenges
Faced by Parliamentary Researchers

Paige Timms, Parliament of SA

Conference Program

THURSDAY - OCT 2

PLENARY

Reimagining Parliament

Five Obvious Engagement Rules and How to Apply them to the Best Element of Parliament – the Committee System
Iain Walker, New Democracy

Reimagining Parliament
Professor Cristina Leston-Bandeira, University of Leeds (via video conference)

PANELS

Modern Parliamentary Workplaces

Transforming Ministers, Members and Parties Office Accommodation in a Modern Parliament
Dave Wills, Parliament of NZ

Keeping Our People and Members Safe in a Changing Environment
Alyson Groves, Parliament of NZ

Privilege and the Enforcement of Health and Safety in the Parliamentary Workplace
Evan Smith, Parliament of SA

Conference Program

THURSDAY - OCT 2

PANELS

Modern Parliamentary Committees

Can Parliamentary Committees Solve Policy Problems?

David Monk, ACT Legislative Assembly

Unpopular Inquiries – Alternative Approaches to Engage with the Public on Complex Topics

Dr Chiara De Lazzari, Parliament of Victoria

Balancing Learning and Legitimation: Public Participation in Select Committees in Aotearoa New Zealand

Will Dreyer, Te Herenga Waka | Victoria University of Wellington

Changing Roles and Expectations

Strengthening the Normative Power of Rule of Law in Australia: What is Parliament's Role and Who Else Should Help?

Dr Michael Hooper & Dr Sarah Moulds, University of South Australia

From Policy to Parliament: Rethinking Online Safety and Social Media Platform Duty of Care

Rachel Tan, Andrew Doyle & Marta Estelles, University of Waikato

Parliamentary Diplomacy and the Role of Parliament in Crisis: Analyzing Sri Lanka's 16th Parliament Amidst Political and Economic Crises (2020–2024)

Malindu Weerakkody, Victoria University of Wellington

Conference Program

FRIDAY- OCT 3

PLENARY

Parliamentary Career Exit: Principles of Institutional Design

Dr Zim Nwokora & Dr Peter Ferguson, Deakin University

Contributions from former Members

PANELS

Reviewing Modern Parliaments

Hope and Disappointments: Evaluating the Federal Parliament's Response to the Jenkins Review

Maria Maley, Australian National University

An Attempt at Contemporary Contempt: Victoria's Parliamentary Workplace Standards and Integrity Regime

Vaughn Koops, Parliament of Victoria

Gender Equality in the Parliament of Victoria? The Long, Unfinished Road to a Gender-Sensitive Parliament

Dr Amy Nethery, Deakin University

Conference Program

FRIDAY- OCT 3

PANELS

Scrutiny in Modern Parliaments

Parliament and Royal commissions – Bringing Royal Commissions to Heel?

Dr Scott Prasser

Citizen Engagement in Parliamentary Oversight of the Executive's Budget
Charlotte Lever, Parliament of Victoria

Parliamentary Scrutiny and Control of Executive Spending After the School Chaplains Case

Glenn Ryall, Senate, Parliament of Australia

Through the Looking-Glass, and What the Legislative Council Found There: The Legacy of the 'Transparency Agenda' in the 58th Parliament
Rhea Goundar & Rhia Victorino, Parliament of NSW