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EDITORIAL

September marks the tenth anniversary of the United Nations General Assembly's *Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples* ('UNDRIP'). Australia was one of only four states that voted against this key international instrument, and although the Rudd government endorsed it in 2009, the Australian state's reversal remains qualified by the same objections it expressed in 2007. I note this, because this issue begins with recent statements from two important national and international bodies: The Referendum Council recommendations, and the Council of the European Union's Conclusions on Indigenous Peoples.

Significantly, the Referendum Council's recommendations endorse the Uluru Statement from the Heart (published in the previous issue). Whether those recommendations lead to substantive constitutional reform, however, largely depends on the extent to which the Australian state is prepared to meaningfully engage with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders and *UNDRIP*.

The first article in this issue is by Jenna Walsh. In an informative and enlightening paper, Jenna provides a detailed background to, and overview of, the challenges facing the Canadian Inquiry into Missing and Murdered First Nations Women and Girls.

The next three articles all explore how a deeper understanding of the complex and unique position and needs of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders is necessary to achieve better policy outcomes. Adelaide Titterton makes this case in relation to Australian family law courts; Daphne Nash, Paul Memmott and Mark Moran examine Indigenous social housing tenancies; and Jeremy Grunfeld discusses the intersection of discrimination law and freedom of speech.

The next two articles explore Indigenous land rights. Stephen M. Young analyses the amendments to the *Native Title Act* made following the [McGlade decision](#), and Yogeswaran Subramaniam [takes in-depth look at](#) a recent Malaysian case.

Next, Edward Synot reviews Michael Mansell's *Treaty and Statehood*, and Harry Hobbs reviews Simon Young, Jennifer Nielsen and Jeremy Patrick's *Constitutional Recognition of First Peoples in Australia*.

Finally, it is a real pleasure to release my first edition as editor of the *Indigenous Law Bulletin* ('ILB'). The *ILB* has always showcased both passionate and considered argument that aims to keep us all abreast on contemporary Indigenous legal issues. This issue continues in that spirit.

Harry Hobbs

Editor