

Submission to

The Joint Standing Committee on Treaties Inquiry

concerning

Certain Maritime Arrangements –Timor Leste

Marian Lester

Regarding:

‘ The consequences of termination of the Treaty between Australia and the Democratic Republic of Timor-Leste on Certain Maritime Arrangements in the Timor Sea’

- **I applaud** my Government, the Government of Australia, for it’s commitment to negotiate with the Government of the DRTL in this regard.
- **I applaud** my Government, the Government of Australia, for signing the 1982 UNCLOS in 1994.
- **I ask** my Government, the Government of Australia, to respect International Law and to abide by any decisions or ruling made in the UN Compulsory Conciliation process.
- **I believe in and support** the Democratic Republic of Timor-Leste in securing their sovereign rights over (their land and) maritime borders. It is imperative that a Nation has sovereign rights over their borders. I feel it is especially important for DRTL, given the recent history of bloody warfare to gain Independence.
- **I am dismayed** that my Government, the Government of Australia is obstructing DRTL exercising its sovereign rights over their maritime borders.
- **I beseech** my Government, the Australian Government, to use this opportunity to use the median line as the right and proper Sea Border with DRTL.

I make this submission with the utmost respect,  
Marian Lester