

Submission to the review into the Telecommunications and Other Legislation Amendment (Assistance and Access) Bill 2018.

Democracies are fragile. Even Greece, the home of Democracy, went through a period of undemocratic military rule in modern times. The Australian Democracy is especially fragile, largely based as it is on parliamentary convention. There is less of a role here for judicial oversight than can be found in some other democracies. Against this background, then, it imperative to ask the question, with each new piece of legislation: "How would a Totalitarian regime use this law?".

The "Telecommunications and Other Legislation Amendment (Assistance and Access) Bill 2018" fails that test.

It should be either reworked or abandoned.