



Ms Sophia Dunstone
Committee Secretary
Senate Legal and Constitutional Affairs References Committee

Friday 5 July 2024

Dear Ms Dunstone,

Response to Dr Max Kaiser

Thank you for the opportunity to respond to the comments made by Max Kaiser about the Australian Jewish News to the Committee on June 17.

A respected publication that is due to celebrate its 130th anniversary next year, the Australian Jewish News is the voice of the mainstream Jewish community. Our readership comprises Jewish leaders and organisations, families, students, as well as interested parties outside the Jewish community including politicians.

We include a range of opinions that reflect the diversity of thought in our community, from left-wing through to right. A local example is during the Voice campaign last year, we included content arguing both in favour and against. Looking abroad, we have run robust criticism of Israeli government policy even as we have backed Israel's right to self-defence.

Naturally, I wholeheartedly reject Dr Kaiser's characterisation that the Australian Jewish News has "become a far-right voice over the past eight months". To address his specific examples, the only mention of Geert Wilders was in a short world news brief about a Tel Aviv-born senator in his government, while Douglas Murray is hardly a far-right figure.

A quick look at our website (australianjewishnews.com) or a flip through our print edition will confirm the above.

Yours sincerely

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