

**From:** Valerie Staddon \_\_\_\_\_  
**Sent:** Sunday, February 11, 2001 9:58 AM  
**To:** [jsct@aph.gov.au](mailto:jsct@aph.gov.au)

**Subject:** Submission to Joint Standing Committee on Treaties

11th February 2001`

The Inquiry Secretary  
Mr. Bob Morris  
Joint Standing Committee on Treaties  
Dept of House of Representatives  
Parliament House  
Canberra ACT 2600

Dear Bob,

I wish to object to the consideration of any overseas proposal that will be binding on the citizens of Australia. Our elected representatives are responsible for internal issues that effect their electors. But, any issue that ties us to international agreements should be first agreed to, or rejected by, all citizens per medium of a referendum.

An International Criminal Court should not over ride the authority of our own institutions. Nor should the citizens of this country be bound to decisions made by any external authority, whose recognition of our common law rights are suspect. I urge the Committee to reject this proposal.

My submission to the Joint Standing Committee on treaties is:

Australia should not be party to the Statute of International Criminal Code.

Because:

1. It overrides Australian sovereignty:

Australia (government) rejected appeals to the Privy Council in order to end jurisdiction by "foreign" authorities. It is therefore hypocritical and a reversal of existing policy of independent sovereignty.

It is not in the best interests of the Australian people to transfer sovereignty to an alien foreign power.

The parliament does not have the peoples' authority for such a transfer of juridical sovereignty.

To transfer sovereignty to a foreign power could only be lawful following a referendum of the population.

2. Should Australia become a party to this Code:

it would place all Australians under the control of a foreign alien power without their individual knowledge or authority, and

it would place all Australians under an authority over which they could not possible have proper democratic influence, and

it would place all Australians under an authority that will be concerned more about the interests of more powerful nations that it would be about Australians, and

Australians would have no reasonable or democratic control over future developments of the Code.

3. Should Australia become party to this Code:

all persons involved in the support of such involvement will have committed an act of treachery against the Australian people for which they will be held fully accountable.

Submission by,

Valerie Staddon