

From: [Lorraine Finlay](#)
To: s 22; [Media AHRC](#); s 22; s 22
Cc: s 22; s 22; s 22; s 22
Subject: Draft Op-ed about Removal Order [SEC=OFFICIAL]
Date: Thursday, 25 April 2024 11:54:00 PM
Attachments: [Balancing Free Speech and Safety Online \(Draft Op-Ed\) \(26 April 2024\).docx](#)

Good evening all.

We've had some discussions in recent days about the ongoing legal dispute between the e-Safety Commissioner and X/Twitter regarding the removal order issues around the video of the stabbing of Bishop Mar Mari Emmanuel. While we have not engaged with the media requests received so far, I have been keeping an eye on the story as it develops. Yesterday the Federal Court extended the interim injunction and the matter is now not due back before the Court until 10 May. The reporting has also now confirmed that what is being sought is a global take-down order, as opposed to geo-blocking of the relevant content, which is a significant factor in terms of the human rights implications.

I've drafted an op-ed outlining my thoughts. s 47C & s 47E
[Redacted]
[Redacted]
[Redacted].

I would welcome any thoughts that you might have, and would be extremely keen to move quickly on this one and look to pitch today so it could potentially run over the weekend?

Warm regards,
Lorraine.

Lorraine Finlay
Human Rights Commissioner

Australian Human Rights Commission
Level 19, 175 Pitt Street, Sydney NSW 2000
GPO Box 5218, Sydney NSW 2001
T +61 2 9284 9814 | F +61 2 9284 9611
E lorraine.finlay@humanrights.gov.au | W www.humanrights.gov.au



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The Commission supports flexible working arrangements, and I am sending this message at a time that is convenient to me and my work schedule. It is not my expectation that you read, respond or follow up on this email outside your hours of work.

From: [Lorraine Finlay](#)
To: s 22
Subject: RE: Draft Op-ed about Removal Order [SEC=OFFICIAL]
Date: Friday, 26 April 2024 10:34:00 AM
Attachments: [Protecting Free Speech Doesn't Mean Dismissing Online Safety \(Draft Op-Ed\) \(26 April 2024\).docx](#)
[image001.gif](#)

Hi s 22

A revised version is attached – accepted most of the changes and added in the line that we discussed.

s 47C & s 47E

– let me know if you think that works?

s 47C & s 47E

Thanks,
Lorraine.

[Lorraine Finlay](#)
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From: Patrick Hooton s 22
Sent: Friday, April 26, 2024 9:47 AM

To: Lorraine Finlay <lorraine.finlay@humanrights.gov.au>
Subject: RE: Draft Op-ed about Removal Order [SEC=OFFICIAL]

s 22

Human Rights Advisor (Business and Technology)

Australian Human Rights Commission

Level 3, 175 Pitt Street, Sydney NSW 2000
 GPO Box 5218, Sydney NSW 2001

Email: s 22

We acknowledge the Traditional Custodians of Country throughout Australia, and recognise their continuing connection to land, waters and culture. We pay our respects to their Elders - past, present and future.

From: Lorraine Finlay <lorraine.finlay@humanrights.gov.au>

Sent: Thursday, April 25, 2024 11:54 PM

To: s 22 Media AHRC

<media@humanrights.gov.au>; s 22 22 ; s 22

Cc: s 22

s 22

Subject: Draft Op-ed about Removal Order [SEC=OFFICIAL]

Good evening all.

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From: [Lorraine Finlay](#)
To: [Media AHRC](#); s 22 ; s 22 ; s 22
Cc: s 22 ; s 22 ; s 22 ; s 22
Subject: RE: Draft Op-ed about Removal Order [SEC=OFFICIAL]
Date: Friday, 26 April 2024 10:39:00 AM
Attachments: [Protecting Free Speech Doesn't Mean Dismissing Online Safety \(Draft Op-Ed\) \(26 April 2024\).docx](#)

Thanks s 22 .

I just tried to give you a call – let me know when you have a few moments to speak.

s 47C & s 47E

I've attached a revised copy of the op-ed. Patrick & I have discussed it and s 47C
& s
47E

I would be keen to discuss with you directly before we start pitching, and am conscious of the fact that we haven't taken the next step yet of running it past Ros.

Many thanks,
Lorraine.

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From: Media AHRC <media@humanrights.gov.au>

Sent: Friday, April 26, 2024 9:47 AM

To: Lorraine Finlay <lorraine.finlay@humanrights.gov.au>; s 22

; Media AHRC <media@humanrights.gov.au>; s 22

s 22; s 22

Cc: s 22

s 22 s 22

Subject: RE: Draft Op-ed about Removal Order [SEC=OFFICIAL]

I've just had a read. s 47C & s 47E

I'll get onto that today - but would you have a sec, Lorraine, to discuss one other aspect?

s 47C & s 47E

s 22

From: Lorraine Finlay <lorraine.finlay@humanrights.gov.au>

Sent: Thursday, April 25, 2024 11:54 PM

To: s 22 Media AHRC

<media@humanrights.gov.au>; s 22 s 22; s 22

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From: s 22
To: [Lorraine Finlay](#)
Subject: RE: Draft Op-ed about Removal Order [SEC=OFFICIAL]
Date: Friday, 26 April 2024 10:59:55 AM

s 47C & s 47E

[Redacted]

s 22

Human Rights Advisor (Business and Technology)

Australian Human Rights Commission

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GPO Box 5218, Sydney NSW 2001

Email: s 22

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From: Lorraine Finlay <lorraine.finlay@humanrights.gov.au>
Sent: Friday, April 26, 2024 10:34 AM
To: s 22
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Sent: Friday, April 26, 2024 9:47 AM
To: Lorraine Finlay <lorraine.finlay@humanrights.gov.au>
Subject: RE: Draft Op-ed about Removal Order [SEC=OFFICIAL]

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 <media@humanrights.gov.au>; s 22 s 22 >; s 22
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Cc: s 22
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From: s 22
To: [Lorraine Finlay](#)
Cc: s 22; [Tracey Young](#)
Subject: RE: Lorraine's OpEd for the Australian - Free Speech is not absolute [SEC=OFFICIAL]
Date: Friday, 26 April 2024 3:21:40 PM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)

Hi Lorraine, The Australian says it is definitely running the piece on Monday.
I've sent the final version for publication.

s 22

From: Lorraine Finlay <lorraine.finlay@humanrights.gov.au>
Sent: Friday, April 26, 2024 2:49 PM
To: s 22
Cc: s 22
Subject: RE: Lorraine's OpEd for the Australian - Free Speech is not absolute [SEC=OFFICIAL]

Thanks again s 22 .

I've had a final look through and happy with the changes suggested by yourself and Ros - [OpEd - Lorraine Finlay - Free Speech & X Takedown Order - April 2024.docx](#).

Would you mind confirming for me once the Australian have confirmed it will run on Monday? I would like to give the eSafety Commissioner a heads-up before it is published.

Many thanks,
Lorraine.

Lorraine Finlay
Human Rights Commissioner

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From: Lorraine Finlay <lorraine.finlay@humanrights.gov.au>
Sent: Friday, April 26, 2024 2:00 PM
To: s 22 Rosalind Croucher
<rosalind.croucher@humanrights.gov.au>
Subject: Re: Lorraine's OpEd for the Australian - Free Speech is not absolute [SEC=OFFICIAL]

Thanks Ros & s 22.

Yes please. If I could have one last look at the final version that would be appreciated. I'm just on my way home after a lunch meeting so will do it as soon as I'm back.

Thanks,
Lorraine.

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From: s 22
Sent: Friday, April 26, 2024 1:31:39 PM
To: Rosalind Croucher <rosalind.croucher@humanrights.gov.au>; Lorraine Finlay
<lorraine.finlay@humanrights.gov.au>
Subject: RE: Lorraine's OpEd for the Australian - Free Speech is not absolute [SEC=OFFICIAL]

Thanks Ros.

Lorraine, do you want to have one last look before I send to the Oz?

s 22

From: Rosalind Croucher <rosalind.croucher@humanrights.gov.au>
Sent: Friday, April 26, 2024 1:24 PM
To: s 22 Lorraine Finlay
<lorraine.finlay@humanrights.gov.au>
Cc: s 22 s 22; Leanne Smith
<leanne.smith@humanrights.gov.au>; s 22 s 22
Subject: RE: Lorraine's OpEd for the Australian - Free Speech is not absolute [SEC=OFFICIAL]

Thanks!

Quite timely.

I've read it now. Picked up a typo ('bought' for 'brought') and s 47C & s 47E

s 47C & s 47E

s 47C & s 47E

Ros

Emeritus Professor Rosalind Croucher AM FAAL FRSA FACLM(Hon)
President

Australian Human Rights Commission

Level 3, 175 Pitt Street, Sydney NSW 2000

GPO Box 5218, Sydney NSW 2001

T +61 2 9284 9614

E rosalind.croucher@humanrights.gov.au | W humanrights.gov.au



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From: s 22

Sent: Friday, April 26, 2024 12:45 PM

To: Rosalind Croucher <rosalind.croucher@humanrights.gov.au>; Lorraine Finlay <lorraine.finlay@humanrights.gov.au>

Cc: s 22 s 22 >; Leanne Smith <leanne.smith@humanrights.gov.au>; s 22 s 22

Subject: RE: Lorraine's OpEd for the Australian - Free Speech is not absolute [SEC=OFFICIAL]

Apologies, I forgot to include the link: [OpEd - Lorraine Finlay - Free Speech & X Takedown Order - April 2024.docx](#)

From: s 22

Sent: Friday, April 26, 2024 12:19 PM

To: Rosalind Croucher <rosalind.croucher@humanrights.gov.au>; Lorraine Finlay <lorraine.finlay@humanrights.gov.au>

Cc: s 22 s 22 >; Leanne Smith <leanne.smith@humanrights.gov.au>; s 22 s 22 >

Subject: Lorraine's OpEd for the Australian - Free Speech is not absolute [SEC=OFFICIAL]

Hi Ros,

Lorraine has written an OpEd calling for sensible discussion about the limits to free speech, in light of reaction to the eSafety Commissioner's takedown order.

s 47C & s 47E

The Australian would like to publish on Monday.

Do you have any feedback before we send a final version?

s 22

s 22

Media Advisor - Strategic Communications

Australian Human Rights Commission

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s 22

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From: s 22
To: [Commissioners](#)
Cc: s 22 ; s 22 ; s 22
Subject: OpEd by Lorraine - Balancing free speech and online safety [SEC=OFFICIAL]
Date: Friday, 26 April 2024 4:01:09 PM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)

Dear Commissioners,

The Australian Newspaper will be publishing an OpEd by Lorraine on Monday.

[OpEd - Lorraine Finlay - Free Speech & X Takedown Order - April 2024.docx](#).

It calls for respectful consideration of the limits to freedom of speech and expresses support for the eSafety Commissioner.

Regards,

s 22

s 22

Media Advisor - Strategic Communications

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s 22

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