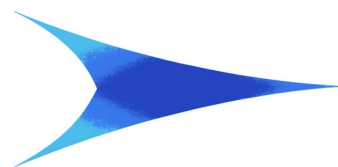


# The Southern Cross Group

*Promoting Mobility in the Global Community*

Brussels, Washington, London and Canberra



## Dual Nationality

Are you Australian? Did you know that if you apply for another nationality, you will lose your Australian citizenship?

You might want to apply for another nationality if you lived in another country for long enough to qualify to take on that country's citizenship. But would you want to stop being Australian at that point? Would you want to stop being Australian, ever?

Even if you never find yourself in a position where you want to exercise your right to dual nationality, wouldn't you expect your children to have this right? You probably have Australian friends and relatives who are living overseas right now. Shouldn't they have this right?

***Section 17 of the Australian Citizenship Act 1948 means that by operation of law, as soon as you gain the citizenship of another country, you automatically lose your Australian citizenship.***

But understand this: you can legally hold dual nationality under Australian law if you are a naturalised Australian or have the right to two nationalities as of birth. Up to five million Australians fall into this category. In other words, about a quarter of the Australian population has a right which three quarters do not have. That's not a fair go.

Section 17 of the Citizenship Act discriminates against Australian-born Australians. It is inappropriate in an age of global mobility. It imposes unnecessary administrative and financial burdens on many Australians who chose to live and work overseas for extended periods.

### **HELP US GET THE HOWARD GOVERNMENT TO REPEAL THIS PROVISION**

We have sent the PM an Open Letter which we are asking Australians everywhere to endorse if possible. Have a look at our website at

[www.southern-cross-group.org](http://www.southern-cross-group.org)

and please contact the PM and your Federal MP or Senators to reinforce our message. Tell them your story.

#### **Prime Minister's Contact Details**

The Hon John Howard, MP  
Prime Minister of Australia  
Parliament House, Canberra ACT 2600  
Fax 02 9251 5454 or 02 6273 4100  
Tel 02 9251 5711 or 02 6277 7700

To identify your local federal MP and find their contact details, go to  
[www.aph.gov.au/house/members/mi-state.asp](http://www.aph.gov.au/house/members/mi-state.asp)

#### **YOUR VOICE COUNTS**

*Further details on our website*

*E-mail us to be placed on our free e-bulletin list*

[info@southern-cross-group.org](mailto:info@southern-cross-group.org)

Southern Cross Group, Avenue de Tervuren 12, Box 8, 1040 Brussels, Belgium

Tel: +32 2 743 4220; Fax: +32 2 743 4222

Email: [info@southern-cross-group.org](mailto:info@southern-cross-group.org); [www.southern-cross-group.org](http://www.southern-cross-group.org)