

Access to Australian Citizenship for Children of Australian-born Maltese

What You Can Do – Instructions

***Make sure that the Minister and other relevant people in Australia hear from you!
Please pass copies of this material on to anyone else you know who is affected.***

If you have internet access, you can make your voice heard simply and quickly now by using our easy online template to write to the Minister for Citizenship using e-mail. Go to:

www.southern-cross-group.org/malta/overview

Our website template allows you to personalise a standard message, and your e-mail letter to the Minister, when sent off our website, will automatically be copied to relevant others without you having to worry about addresses, etc. You'll also get a copy by e-mail for your own records.

If you do not have internet access, we suggest you send ordinary letters to Australia by airmail or by fax, as detailed below.

Follow These Steps:

1. Take the model letter attached. Read through it carefully once for understanding before you fill in any details.
2. You can use the copy of the attached model letter and simply fill in your details directly. Or if you prefer, you can retype or hand-write the text of our model letter on a fresh sheet of paper, perhaps on your own letterhead, customising it to your own circumstances as you go.
3. Fill in the details about yourself in the top right hand corner and the date you will be sending the letter.
4. In the middle of the letter, there are two indented paragraphs both beginning with the word "I". Only one of these paragraphs should appear in your letter, because only one will be relevant to you. Cross out the one that does not apply.

If you have children and use the first indented paragraph, adapt it as necessary to reflect one or more children and their genders, as indicated, by crossing out the words which do not apply.

5. Sign the letter.
6. Fill in the names of any children you have, in order of oldest to youngest. Use one horizontal row of the table at the bottom of the letter for each child. If you have more than six children, add additional names to the bottom of the letter in the same format.
7. Decide whether you are going to send your letters by airmail post or by fax. You only need to use one method, not both. (If you want to send your letters by **e-mail**, simply use the quick and easy template mailer facility on our website at www.southern-cross-group.org/malta/overview)
8. If you are sending your letters by post, make **five** copies of the letter in addition to the one original so that you have six in total. Use the ready-made addresses in rectangles on the separate sheet provided. Simply cut all five addresses out, and paste them on to the front of five envelopes. Attach an airmail stamp to the value of 27 cents (for Australia) and 7 cents (for Malta) and to each envelope, *write your return address on the back of each*, then post. Make sure that the letter with your original signature goes in the envelope addressed to the Hon Gary Hardgrave MP.
9. If you are sending your letters by fax, make only **one** copy of the letter. Take the list of four fax numbers at the bottom of the addresses sheet and fax the letter to each of those four fax numbers. Staple the fax transmission reports to the back of the original letter and keep for your records. In addition, cut out the one address label for Norman Bonello in Malta, stick it on an envelope and pop the additional copy in the post to the Southern Cross Group, affixing a stamp to the value of 7 cents.
10. If you have any questions or need assistance, call or SMS Norman Bonello, the Southern Cross Group's Co-ordinator in Malta, on mobile 79-468329.

To: The Hon Gary Hardgrave MP
Minister for Citizenship and Multicultural Affairs
Parliament House
Canberra ACT 2600
AUSTRALIA

Your Full Name _____
Address _____
Town _____
Country _____
Home Tel _____
Mobile Tel _____
Date of Birth _____
Country of Birth _____
Today's Date _____

Access to Australian Citizenship for Children of Australian-Born Maltese

Dear Minister,

I write concerning the proposed changes to the *Australian Citizenship Act 1948* announced by you on 7 July 2004. May I congratulate you for initiating reforms which will, when they become law, allow myself and many others in Malta to apply to resume their much-cherished Australian citizenship and re-join the Australian family.

While your planned reforms will solve my own personal citizenship predicament, I am concerned that you appear not to have included children born to Section 18 victims after their renunciation.

I myself have a child/children born after I was forced to renounce my Australian citizenship. His/Her/Their details are set out below. *(adapt as appropriate or delete if not applicable)*

OR

I do not have any children of my own, but I would strongly urge you to give due consideration to the many children born in Malta to Australian-born parents who currently do not have access to Australian citizenship. *(delete if not applicable)*

It would be unjust if the children of Section 18 victims were not treated in the same way as children of Section 17 victims. Section 18 children should not be discriminated against simply by virtue of the provision under which their parent lost their Australian citizenship. I call upon you to include Section 18 children in the forthcoming bill to amend the *Australian Citizenship Act 1948*.

Yours faithfully,

(your signature)

Details of

Child's Name/s	Child's Date of Birth	Child's Country of Birth

cc: *The Hon Laurie Ferguson, MP, Shadow Minister for Citizenship and Multicultural Affairs*
Phillip Bailey, Acting Secretary, Senate Legal and Constitutional References Committee - Inquiry into Australian Expatriates
Peter Vardos, First Assistant Secretary, Citizenship and Multicultural Affairs Division, DIMIA Canberra
Norman Bonello, Co-ordinator, Southern Cross Group, Malta

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Address Labels and Fax Numbers

Note: You should send your letters by airmail post **or** by fax. It is not necessary to send them by both methods.

If sending letters by airmail post, cut out each of the five address rectangles below and stick them on five envelopes.

<p>The Hon Gary Hardgrave MP Minister for Citizenship and Multicultural Affairs Parliament House Canberra ACT 2600 AUSTRALIA</p>	<p>Peter Vardos First Assistant Secretary Citizenship and Multicultural Affairs Division Department of Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs PO Box 25 Belconnen ACT 2616 AUSTRALIA</p>
<p>The Hon Laurie Ferguson MP Shadow Minister for Citizenship and Multicultural Affairs Parliament House Canberra ACT 2600 AUSTRALIA</p>	<p>Phillip Bailey Acting Secretary Senate Legal and Constitutional References Committee <i>Inquiry into Australian Expatriates</i> Room S1.61 Parliament House Canberra ACT 2600 AUSTRALIA</p>
<p>Norman Bonello Co-ordinator Southern Cross Group 'Morning Glory' 19, Mattia Preti Street Siggiewi MALTA</p>	

If sending letters by fax, send your complete letter to the following **four** fax numbers, **and** post one copy to Norman Bonello in Malta using the label for him above.

Hardgrave: 0061 7 3217 1420

Ferguson: 0061 2 9682 6320

Bailey: 0061 2 6277 5794

Vardos: 0061 2 6264 4217