



Nomination for Position on National Committee

(Nominations from new members and from all states and territories are encouraged)

I, Kerry Weste

.....
(full name)

of [redacted] (Not for publication)

.....
(address)

Phone/e-mail [redacted] (Not for publication)/

.....
(contact details)

nominate for the position of: President

.....
(President, Vice President, Treasurer, Secretary, Ordinary Member)

If Ordinary Member, which subcommittee:

of the National Committee of Australian Lawyers for Human Rights Incorporated.

.....
Signed by nominator (may be nominee)

.....
Date:

Please set out below a (very short) bio, a brief summary of your reasons for wishing to be elected to the National Committee and describe what you believe you are able to contribute.

If you are nominating for an ordinary member position please outline your experience or expertise in the subcommittee area chosen. Please also outline briefly your plans for the year ahead as chair of the subcommittee:

Bio:

I was admitted to practice as a Barrister and Solicitor of the Supreme Court of South Australia in 1998. I have worked for Legal Aid as a Duty Solicitor in the Children's Court, in private practice for top tier firms in Adelaide and London, in house for the NHS London and as a senior lawyer for the Commonwealth Director of Public Prosecutions. I am an experienced advocate in court and accustomed to managing complex briefs of evidence and preparing high level reports and minutes on issues of law, policy and procedure. I have a long held interest in human rights law and am currently completing a Masters in Human Rights Law and Social Justice at UNSW.

Reasons for nominating:

I have been a member of the ALHR National Committee for over five years and Vice President for the past two years. From May 2014 to April 2016 I chaired ALHR's Fundraising Subcommittee, during which time I contributed to improving ALHR's governance thereby advancing the effectiveness, efficiency and impact of ALHR as one of Australia's leading human rights organisations. As Chair of the Fundraising Subcommittee I successfully project managed significant organisational change on behalf of ALHR via the introduction of paid membership and delivered ALHR an ongoing revenue stream for the first time in its history. I delivered these outcomes whilst also continuing to make significant contributions to ALHR's day-to-day human rights related strategic advocacy such as drafting or editing submissions and press releases.

I believe my in depth knowledge of international human rights law, ALHR's strategic goals moving forward, my experience as Vice President over the past two years and my skills and acumen as an experienced legal practitioner stand me in very good stead to perform the role of president. My experience managing complex litigation and supervising junior solicitors means that I can confidently co-ordinate the work of ALHR on behalf of the Executive, Executive Management Committee and the National Committee.

During my time as Vice President of ALHR I have:

- Continued and expanding ALHR's excellent work drafting and settling submissions on multiple and numerous state/Territory/federal parliamentary inquiries and to UN bodies (incl UN Special Procedures and Special Rapporteurs) – we are now at the point where we receive personal invitations from Federal and State Parliamentary Committees to provide submissions and from Federal Ministers to attend events such as the DFAT Human Rights NGO Roundtable in Canberra.
- Been a frequent media release spokesperson for ALHR on many and varied human right

issues.

- Worked with key members of the NC to Assess, enhance and optimise ALHR's governance systems and fundraising activities and drafted policy and guidance documents all focused towards improving ALHR's internal governance and external advocacy impacts and outputs.
- Worked with the President, National Committee and over the last 12 months the Executive Management Committee to expand the National Committee to comprise of over 30 people, active state and territory committees and 8 national thematic subcommittees, including the: Disability Rights Subcommittee; Refugee Rights Subcommittees; Indigenous Rights Subcommittee ; Human Rights Act(s) Subcommittee; Women & Girls' Rights Subcommittee; Freedoms Subcommittee; LGBTI Subcommittee and; Business & Human Rights Subcommittee.
- Worked with the President to engage ALHR's first professional media which has lead to increased media exposure (ABC RN AM/PM, Channel 10 *The Project*) SBS Radio) and consistent local, regional, national and international media exposure (radio, print, TV) thereby amplifying ALHR's advocacy impact on important human rights issues in Australia and abroad.
- Project Managed the delivery of ALHR's sold out inaugural national human rights conference and La Trobe University Law School's City Campus in Melbourne.
- Fostered and developed key strategic relationships with prominent human rights advocates, civil society organisations, government and public departments and the legal sector.
- Continued to oversee and project manage ALHR's paid membership system, the introduction of which I project managed as Ordinary member for Fundraising in 2015. When paid membership was introduced in 2015 ALHR reverted to a membership of 0 and through consistent management of membership promotion and growth, ALHR's paid membership now stands at over 1,000 barristers, judicial officers, legal academics and law students.
- Attended numerous events to represent ALHR including

If re-elected to the position of ALHR president I will remain dedicated to advancing and implementing initiatives which deliver:

- The resources needed for ALHR to become a leading legal voice in human rights discourse in Australia;
- Progression of beneficial relationships with organisations and individuals such as expanding the in kind relationship we enjoyed with through our secretariat and Human Rights Advocacy subject at La Trobe University Law School to universities nationally;
- Timely reactions to human rights issues as they arise;
- Growth in ALHR's membership numbers;
- Value-added professional development for our membership;
- Progress toward ALHR's medium and long-term strategic goals, such as a greater focus on more consistent communication with members of parliament and a greater media presence, greater involvement in United Nations complaints mechanisms and an increased presence at international human rights forums.
- Attention to the continued monitoring and strengthening of ALHR's governance and

mechanisms to ensure that these are continuously monitored, reflected upon and improved.

- Launch of an ALHR Children’s Rights Subcommittee

I am very excited about the opportunity to step up and fulfill the role of president of ALHR. These are very exciting and concerning historic times. International human right law, the rule of law and democratic institutions are under great pressure. ALHR has a very important and robust part to play in defending them. I strongly believe that my in-depth knowledge of international human rights law and of the operations and governance structure of ALHR stand me in good stead to more-than-adequately discharge the duties of ALHR president.

I would be very grateful for the ALHR national committee and membership to elect me to the position of president and to continue growing ALHR’s multi-faceted impacts and exposure throughout Australia and overseas.

If you have any queries about the roles and responsibilities of office bearers and committee members, contact the current ALHR executive on

secretary@alhr.org.au

Completed Nominations must be delivered to:

By post: Secretary, ALHR
PO Box A147
Sydney South
NSW 1235

By e-mail
(as a pdf):

secretary@alhr.org.au