

MEDIA RELEASE

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FAITH, RIGHTS & JUSTICE REWARDED



The Kennedy Foundation is proud to announce another new category in the annual Kennedy Awards program for outstanding journalism.

From 2023 Australia's best journalists will be able to submit their work in the award category; 'Outstanding Reporting on Human Rights, Social or Religious Affairs'

The award acknowledges the important role that human rights, day-to-day social issues and religion play in our societies and the lives of many.

The Catholic Archbishop of Sydney, Most Rev. Anthony Fisher OP said ; *"I am thrilled to see an award for acknowledging journalists who highlight the important role religious faith plays in Australian life. Most Australians are religious believers and many of them give public expression to their faith by using their time, talents and funds to making things better for all Australians."*

It is a view shared by the President of the Australian National Imams Council (ANIC) Imam Shadi Alsuleiman; *"Faith and religion have been part and parcel of mankind from the beginning and had contributed to the civilisation, prosperity and advancement of people and will continue to contribute for centuries to come. It is great to see the Kennedy Awards launching a new category recognising the great contributions of faith in this modern day and age."*

While the NSW Jewish Board of Deputies CEO Darren Bark commented, *"We thank the organisers of the Kennedy Awards for highlighting the positive contribution of religion in Australian society. This award is long overdue and will shine light on the important work of journalists across our country in reporting about matters that affect our diverse, multicultural communities. It is a step in the right direction."*

Amnesty International Australia Supporter Engagement Director, Jez Hunghanfoo, said, *"Journalists are often at the forefront of exposing human rights abuses and as a result are themselves targeted because of their work. The media has always played an important role in holding the powerful to account and Amnesty welcomes the acknowledgement of the importance of human rights in this awards program."*

While a number of our existing categories could reward stories that may focus on social affairs issues, having an award that also sharpens the focus on matters that affect our society in a fundamental way acknowledges the importance of such journalism and the issues it exposes.

The Director of the National Justice Project, George Newhouse, said, *"Critical investigative journalism can save lives and change bad policy. It is important to acknowledge the brave journalists who are at the forefront of human rights and social justice and this new award category is long overdue."*

For award criteria details visit [HERE](#)

The national 2023 Kennedy Awards open entries on May 1

The Kennedy winners will be announced at the gala event on August 18 at Royal Randwick.

For all the details visit the [Kennedy Foundation website](#)