

Constitutional Recognition of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples

Recent activities, events, reports and background

- First contact
- Conciliation
- Frontier Wars/Killing Times
- Protection
- Self Determination
- Practical Reconciliation
- Neo-paternalism / Bipartisanship

Referendum Council

- The Referendum Council shall:
- undertake a series of Indigenous consultations and
- to provide opportunities for all Australians to have a say through online consultations on a digital platform, a public submissions process, a series of public community forums and direct engagement with a number of stakeholders.
- The Council will report to the Prime Minister and the Leader of the Opposition on:
 - outcomes of national consultations and community engagement about constitutional recognition, including indigenous-led consultations;
 - options for a referendum proposal, steps for finalising a proposal, and possible timing for a referendum; and
 - Constitutional issues.

Referendum Council Membership

Co-Chairs : Pat Andersen (NT) & Mark Leibler

- Megan Davis
- Mick Gooda
- Tanya Hosch
- Stan Grant
- Noel Pearson
- Dalassa Yorkston
- Galarrwuy Yunupingu
- Andrew Demetriou
- Murray Gleeson
- Kristina Keneally
- Jane McAloon
- Michael Rose
- Natasha Stott Despoja
- Amanda Vanstone

Referendum Council

Indigenous Consultations

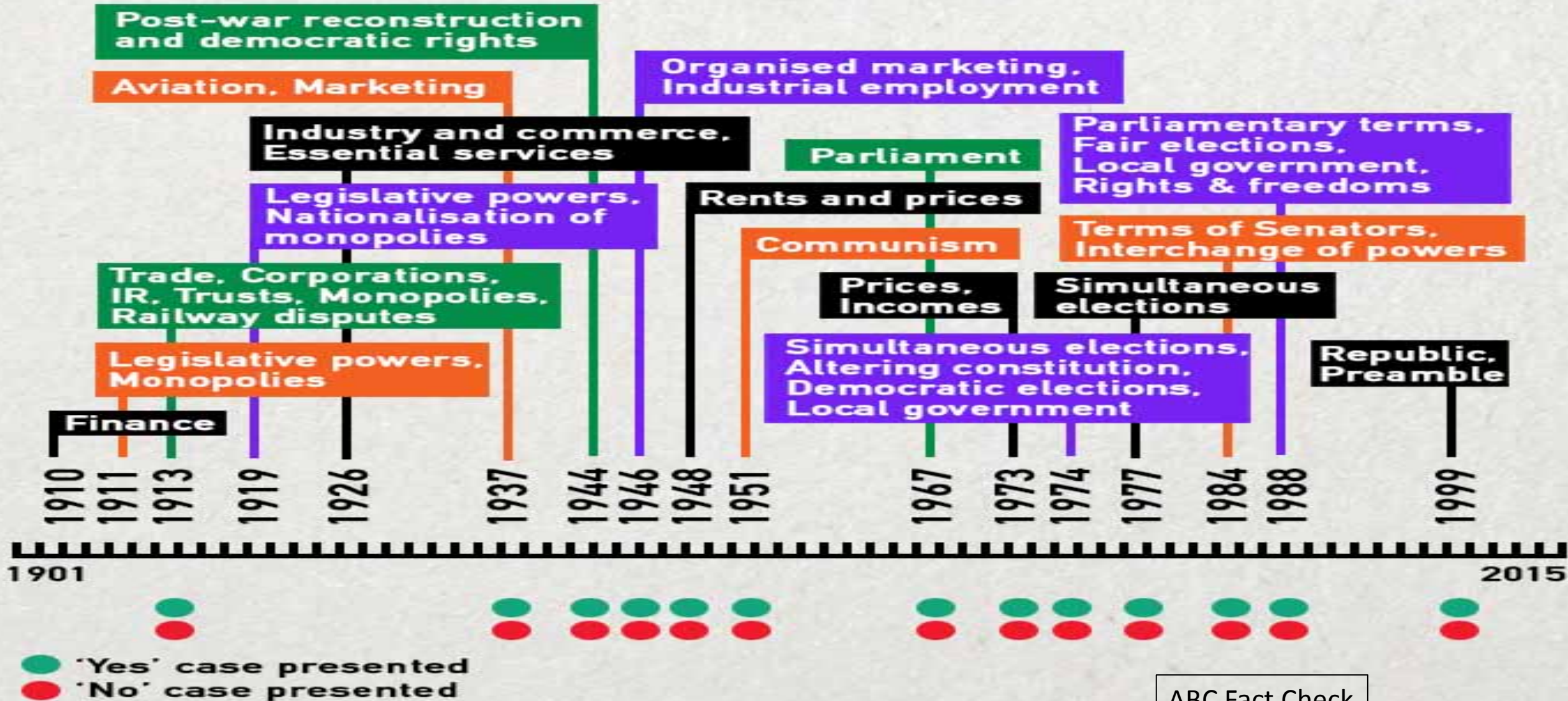
- Three Indigenous Leadership Meetings in Broome, Melbourne and Thursday Island with Indigenous leaders to provide feedback and precise the methodology, format and content of the Regional Dialogues;
- 18 Regional First Nations Dialogues' which will include an Open Forum conducted by Congress prior to each forum; these are planned to be convened July – Oct 2016.
- A National Indigenous Convention (to consider and reach consensus on a referendum proposal).

Referendum Council

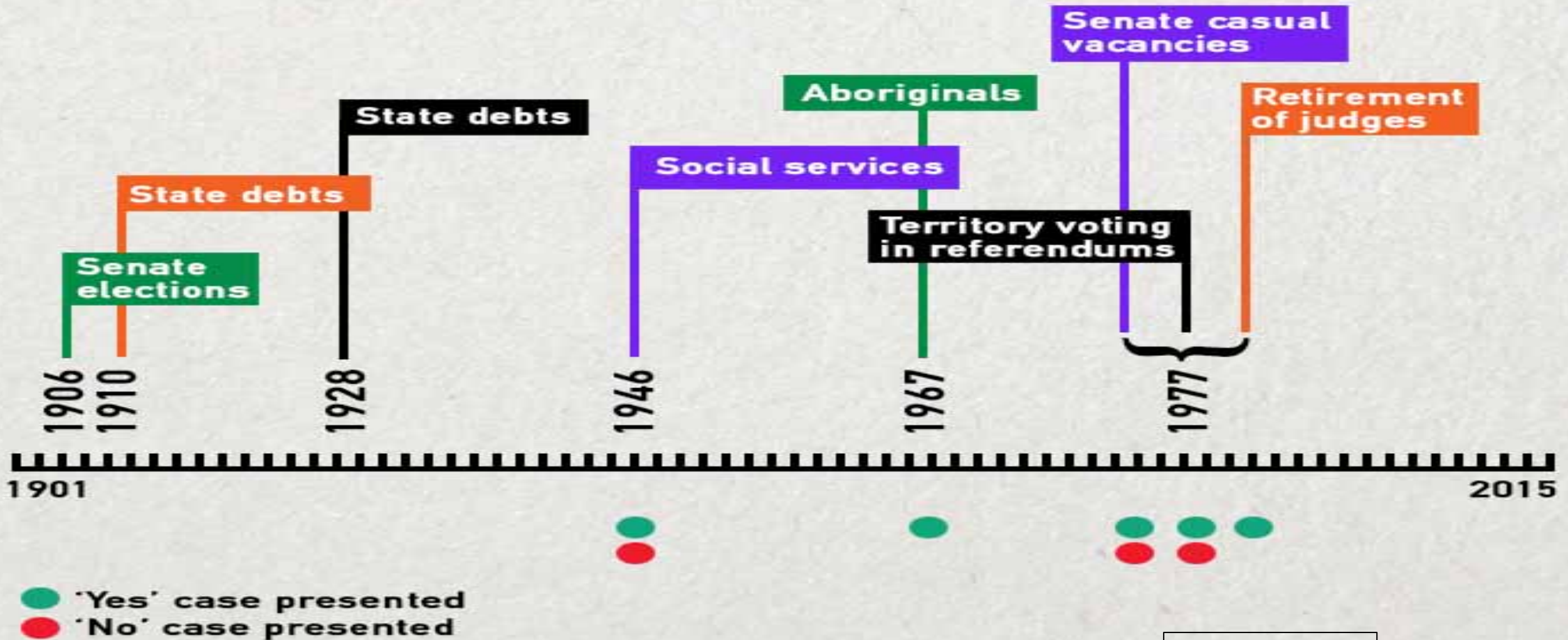
The following elements of a potential referendum proposition are planned:

- deletion of section 25;
- deletion of section 51(xxvi);
- insertion of a new section 51A that would likely be along the lines of a new section 51A recommended by the Joint Select Committee and may not include the fourth preambular paragraph proposed by the Expert Panel relating to 'advancement' or similar;
- a constitutionally entrenched Indigenous Advisory Body, via the insertion of a new section 60A that would seek to give effect to the proposal in a way that is constitutionally non-justiciable and upholds parliamentary supremacy; and
- the addition of a new section 116A prohibiting racial discrimination along the lines of that recommended by the Expert Panel.

Unsuccessful referendums



Successful referendums



The Facts

- 111 – Failed, lapsed referenda
- 44 – Referenda that actually got to the people
- 8 – the number of successful referendums
- 1977 – the last successful referendum
- Successful referenda – all fairly simple stuff really

Five Hurdles

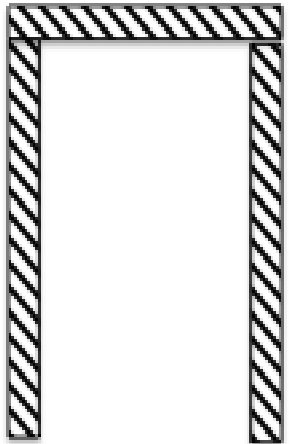
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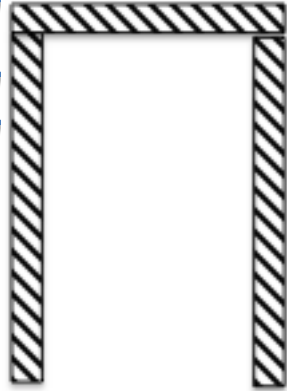
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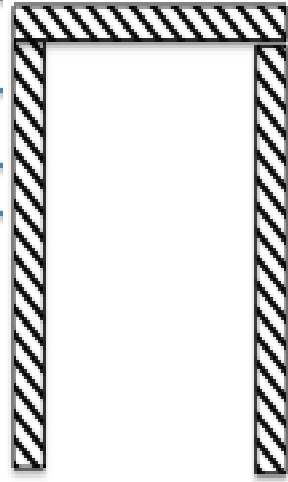
Aboriginal and
Torres Strait
Islander
People

This is the crucial
first hurdle.



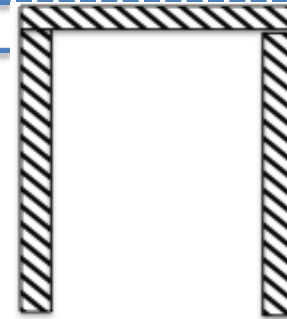
Prime Minister

This is the crucial
second hurdle.

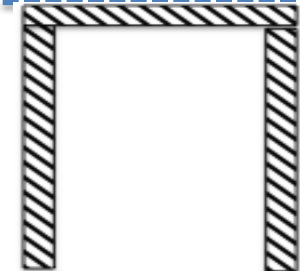


PARTY ROOM

The Party Room is
the most difficult
hurdle of all.



PARLIAMENT



PEOPLE

As difficult as the
Referendum
hurdle is, it is the
lowest of the 5
hurdles. Provided
a bipartisan
position emerges
out of Parliament.