



### **Open Letter: Tear Down ANU's Poster Policy**

The ANU has proposed a policy for postering and advertising on campus that, if implemented unchanged, will severely damage campus life.

This proposed policy is highly restrictive. It will impact a huge amount of groups:

- Clubs and societies, and any other communities on campus, who want to promote their events will be extremely limited in where they can put up posters, to only four designated notice boards on campus.
- Staff who want to put signs on their doors will not be able to.
- If you want to fly a flag that is meaningful to you, such as a pride flag, you have to seek permission in advance.
- Students who want to decorate their residential hall rooms are technically prevented from doing so.
- Protest groups will be vulnerable to censorship under the policies for posters, banners and flags.

These are only the tip of the iceberg. This is a university campus. A campus with posters advertising events, protests, research studies and expressing opinions is the norm, which ANU is trying to restrict. It is clear that this is an attempt to limit students and staff promoting social and political causes on campus. Universities are places for robust debate and this policy actively limits this. This is an incursion on political freedom.

We are also concerned about the policy's lack of procedural fairness. There is no ability to appeal nor obligation for the University to explain its decision-making.

We call on the ANU to:

- Stop the policy as it is. Instead, open up a consultation process from first principles to identify what issues are important to the community for any postering or advertising policies
- Commit to procedural fairness and transparency in any future policies
- Limit the broadness of the policy. Postering should be allowed on campus unless specified otherwise, not the other way around.

**Sign on to the open letter as an organisation or individual [here](#).**

We encourage ANU students and staff to [make their own submissions](#) to the University.



**Organisation signatures**

**Individual signatures**