



**Australian  
Privacy  
Foundation**

---

mail@privacy.org.au

<http://www.privacy.org.au>

## **MEDIA RELEASE**

**10 July 2012**

### **Michael Kirby, Elizabeth Evatt and Privacy**

The Australian Privacy Foundation has gained the support of two of the nation's most senior and respected judges as Co-Patrons.

Michael Kirby has been associated with privacy since the late 1970s. He believes that the law, by itself, cannot cope with the harm being inflicted by unthinking applications of technology. "Technology and technologists must also be enlisted to help protect privacy", he says.

Elizabeth Evatt has given long service to critical aspects of human relationships, to family law, and to overcoming race and gender discrimination. She sees respect for individuals' personal space and relationships as being a pivotal element of human rights more generally.

The Co-Patrons are joined by a long list of leading citizens, who make up the APF's Advisory Panel. A list of the Panel members is at:  
<http://www.privacy.org.au/About/AdvisoryPanel.html>

"The support of such a highly diverse group of people of high standing in Australian society confirms the importance of the APF's work in influencing governments, parliaments and corporations", said Board Chair Roger Clarke.

The APF has the longest history of contributions to privacy protection of any such organisation in the world. The announcement comes at a time when the APF is celebrating the 25th anniversary of its formation.

**Attachment:**

Michael Kirby Bio and Photo  
Elizabeth Evatt Bio and Photo

**Contacts for This Media Release:**

Roger Clarke, Chair, (02) 6288 6916, [chair@privacy.org.au](mailto:chair@privacy.org.au)  
David Vaile, Vice-Chair, 0414 731 249, [vicechair1@privacy.org.au](mailto:vicechair1@privacy.org.au)



### **The Hon. Michael Kirby AC CMG**

Michael Kirby served as a Judge of the High Court of Australia (1996-2009). Prior to that he held various judicial posts in Australia and, from 1975-1984, he chaired the Australian Law Reform Commission when it produced its influential report on privacy protection. That report was based on the OECD Guidelines prepared by an expert group of OECD, which he chaired (1978-80). The OECD Guidelines have influenced privacy laws in many countries.

He also chaired an OECD expert group on security of information systems (1991-92). In 1995-98, he served as President of the International Commission of Jurists, Geneva, which added privacy concerns to its human rights agenda. In 2008 he was named inaugural winner of the Australian Privacy Medal. In 2010, he was appointed by EPIC, Washington D.C., as an International Privacy Champion. Also in 2010, he was named co-winner of the Gruber Justice Prize.

### **The Hon. Justice Elizabeth Evatt AC**

Elizabeth Evatt was the first female judge of an Australian federal court. She chaired the Royal Commission on Human Relationships, in 1974-77. She served as the first Chief Judge of the Family Court of Australia, from 1976-88. She was subsequently President of the ALRC, during the period 1988-93.

Her strong commitment to human rights, with a particular focus on gender and race discrimination, has been exemplified by her work on the UN Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination Against Women, 1984-92, including as Chair 1989-91. She was the first Australian elected to the UN Human Rights Committee, 1993-2000.