26 November 2013

Dr Roger Clarke
Chair
Australian Privacy Foundation

By email: Chair@privacy.org.au

Dear Dr Clarke,

Draft Resolution A/C.3/68/L.45 before the United Nations General Assembly

Thank you for your letter of 17 November 2013. I was very pleased to see that the UN General Assembly is currently considering a resolution on the right to privacy in the digital age.

The Australian Human Rights Commission welcomes this debate at the international level, particularly given that domestically Australia is engaged in a similar discussion. As you know, the Australian Law Reform Commission has initiated the first stage of public consultation for its Inquiry into Serious Invasions of Privacy in the Digital Age. I hope the discussion both internationally and domestically will examine the appropriate balance between the right to privacy and other fundamental human rights and freedoms.

The Commission has worked and continues to work on a range of human rights issues connected with the Internet. I would like to draw your attention to a recent background paper the Commission has produced on Human rights in cyber space (available on our website https://www.humanrights.gov.au/publications/background-paper-human-rights-cyberspace). This paper considers a number of human rights issue related to the internet including the right to privacy.

Yours sincerely,

Gillian Triggs
President

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