

Use the sources provided to answer Question 11.

2012 HSC - Aboriginal Studies  
Band 4/5  
Sample 1 Question 11

### Constitutional recognition of Indigenous peoples

1982	1988	1995	2008	2009	?
Canada	Norway	Finland	Ecuador	Bolivia	Australia

### An Indigenous Australian's view of Constitutional recognition

'What I would like to see within the Constitution . . . is a very broad, encompassing principle of equality and equal rights that recognises Aboriginal People as having unique rights as well as human rights and citizenship rights – a broad principle but one that also recognises our unique position in Australia.'

Ms Thomas, extract from Transcript of Evidence,  
*Reforming our Constitution: A roundtable discussion*,  
House of Representatives, Canberra, 2008

- 11 The Australian Government is considering the recognition of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples in the Australian Constitution. 6

To what extent can government initiatives like this address the social justice experiences of Indigenous peoples in Australia and other countries?

Initiatives such as this force the government to realise Aboriginal societies across the globe, require special services & policies to ~~re~~ reconcile previous injustices & to provide ~~re~~ social & economic equality. Initiatives like this, allow the rejuvenation of various cultural aspects that have been diminished due to the effect of colonisation, which applies to all Indigenous populations. By allowing these initiatives, such as the recognition into the constitution, re-establish trust & provide the Indigenous people with a sense of Independence.