

Use the sources provided to answer 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?

The recognition of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples in the constitution would have great significance on addressing the social justice of indigenous people of Australia primarily ~~one~~ as through the recognition in the constitution they are ~~not~~ recognised as part of our country. ~~For~~ recognising Aboriginal people as "unique rights" as part of the first people of the land it would break down racism as they would be given the true recognition they are entitled to basic human rights including ~~freedom~~ of security of person article 7 and the right to education thus it would call for equality and improve their socio economic status. -6-