

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?

Such Government initiatives can have a highly effective and significant impact on addressing the social justice experiences of Indigenous peoples and other countries, as it allows for a global recognition, increasing the indigenous peoples' self-esteem and self-confidence and enhancing their overall sense of belonging. As some Indigenous peoples have been made the "inferior" race within their country, they have lost all confidence and motivation to allow themselves to be apart of society, leaving them excluded and out of touch. This can also impact their will to seek employment + education, however by being included in the constitution, they are being recognized as part of a society + community, building their confidence and impacting them to make positive decisions relating to education and employment.