



Australian Education Union
2008 Annual Federal Conference

Conference Statement
Industrial Relations

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Conference Statement Industrial Relations

The defeat of the Howard Government represents a repudiation of their extreme industrial relations laws.

In the development of industrial relations system the AEU will:

- seek to abolish the concept of prohibited content in awards and agreements;
- oppose any statutory individual contracts in the transition;
- support ILO freedom of association rights to allow effective access, information, organizing and training for union representatives in the workplace;
- support the right to take industrial action democratically determined by unions without state, industry enterprise, or occupational restrictions;
- support collective bargaining including on an industry-wide basis underpinned by effective award and legislated standards, with recourse to agreed arbitration in the last resort in the public interest;
- support a strong 'good faith' bargaining regime;
- demand the repeal of the Skilling Australia's Workforce Act and its industrial relations requirements on TAFE Colleges.

The rights currently available in state industrial jurisdictions should be preserved in the transition to any national industrial relations system, by inclusion in the terms of referral by state governments if that should that occur.