

Centre Unity/Industrial Left Agreement

A new way

For Labor to deliver just and equitable outcomes for the community, we must be in the best possible position to obtain and hold Government at the State and Federal level. We can only do this if we have a strong, vibrant and democratic Party at every level of the organisation.

This agreement replaces the previous “Stability Deal” which allocated held seats to individual factions over many years, fettering the democratic rights of the membership and affiliated trade unions.

This has resulted over the years in a system in which too much power is wielded by too few with little regard to policy, proportionality or local democracy.

This is not good for our members or our future.

Accordingly, both CU and the IL have determined to forge a new path. One based on respect for ideas and values, on policy and solidarity and on creating strong foundations that still allow for a dynamic and diverse organisation.

The Alliance will be guided by 3 important principles – proportionality, values and delivering quality candidates.

The focus of this approach and this Alliance is to ensure a re-elected Andrews Labor Government in Victoria and a Shorten Labor Government nationally.

1. Mutual Support for State and Federal Preselections

The CU and the IL reaffirm their strong support of AA as prescribed in the Party rules.

Where seats become vacant or new seats created, CU and the IL will support each others’ candidates. These matters will be the process of ongoing discussion and negotiation within the Alliance with proportionality, values and quality candidates as the determining factors.

It is, however, recognised that the IL (which includes a significant number of unions and rank and file members) is not adequately represented in state and federal parliamentary or party structures due to the operation of the Stability Agreements. Accordingly, the IL will be supported by CU with respect to the anticipated creation of a new Federal seat in the North West of Melbourne (allocated to the SL under the Stability Deal).

The IL will also be supported for a safe seat in the round of 2022 federal seat preselections allocated to the SL in the stability deal (be it Senate or Calwell or another comparable seat) over and above any other arrangements CU and the IL enter into.

2. Party Positions

The IL and CU commit to work in co-operation in all Victorian Branch Party forums such as State Conference (including elections at State Conference), Administrative Committee, POSC and FEA elections. This co-operation includes supporting each others candidates and preferencing each other before other groups in party elections.

3. The State Parliamentary Labor Party

Representatives from CU and the IL Parliamentary Caucus will develop the most appropriate arrangements for close consultation and co-operation within the parliamentary party.

4. Timing and Implementation

This agreement commences on the formal signing of this document.

Signatures for and on behalf of CU

Adem Somyurek for Moderate Labor

Richard Marles

John Berger for TWU

Ben Davis for AWU

Gary Maas for NUW

Earl Setches for Plumbers

Diana Asmar for HWU

Michael Donovan for SDA

Signatures for and on behalf of the IL

Mark Gepp IL Co- Convenor

Luba Grigorovitch for RTBU (IL Co-Convenor)

Shaun Reardon for CFMEU

Darren Martin for FSU

Lloyd Williams for HACSU

Joe Italia for MUA