

InASA: International Australian Studies Association

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InASA opposes Ministerial and political interference in Dr Randa Abdel-Fattah's ARC Future Fellowship

The Executive of the International Australian Studies Association (InASA) is gravely concerned by news that the Australian Research Council has suspended the Future Fellowship grant of Macquarie University academic Dr Randa Abdel-Fattah. This move followed Federal Education Minister Hon. Jason Clare ordering a “probe” into Dr Abdel-Fattah’s use of research funds. An esteemed scholar, Dr Abdel-Fattah has been subjected to a high-profile campaign of harassment for her activism in support of Palestine.

InASA opposes ministerial and political intervention into grants awarded by the Australian Research Council. We welcomed Minister Clare’s championing of legislation in November 2023 that would end the use of ARC grant funding as a “political plaything”. The InASA executive expresses our solidarity with Dr Abdel-Fattah, and calls on the ARC to reinstate Dr Abdel-Fattah’s grant until the conclusion of an open and transparent investigation conducted in accordance with principles of natural justice and procedural fairness.

Endorsed by InASA Executive Committee

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