Hands off the ABC!

*Australian Book Review* shares many Australians’ concerns about the health and viability of the ABC. The threats are myriad and sustained. Funding cuts, political interference, and frequent taunts from News Corp have weakened the organisation. Recently, the Liberal Party’s Federal Council voted to privatise the organisation. This would surely spell the beginning of the end for the national broadcaster. We take things for granted in the Lucky Country, but can we really be sure that the ABC will be around in 2028 to celebrate its centenary – searching, unfettered, well resourced? More and more people think not and have begun to lobby government. *ABR* supports them wholeheartedly. Meanwhile, one hundred writers, artists, commentators, and public figures have signed our Open Letter in support of the ABC.

Peter Rose, Editor and CEO of *Australian Book Review*

‘*When I was growing up, the ABC represented my imagination. It is the voice of Australia, and yet its throat is being cut.*’

Thomas Keneally

‘*Those who say that the ABC will be around for years to come have their heads truly in the world of denial.*’

Ranald Macdonald

Those who have signed our [Open Letter](#) include:

Louise Adler AM  
Brook Andrew  
Robyn Archer AO  
Neil Armfield AO  
John Bell AO  
J.M. Coetzee  
Paul Collins  
Glyn Davis AC

Brett Dean  
Robert Dessaix  
Morag Fraser AM  
Anna Funder  
Helen Garner  
Anna Goldsworthy  
Gideon Haigh  
Marieke Hardy

Lindy Hume  
Barry Jones AC  
Michelle de Kretser  
Ranald Macdonald  
Robert Manne  
Kerry O’Brien  
Kim Scott  
Fiona Stanley AC

[Click here to read the Open Letter](#)


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