

SECOND EDITION

AUSTRALIAN POLITICS IN THE TWENTY-FIRST CENTURY

OLD INSTITUTIONS, NEW CHALLENGES

The global political environment in the twenty-first century is proving dynamic and challenging for Australian policymakers and political institutions. Locally, the rise of small political parties and independents has disrupted the idea of a stable two-party system, and environmental, civil rights and national identity challenges could reshape political institutions.

Australian Politics in the Twenty-first Century is a comprehensive and thoughtful account of Australian politics that contextualises the political landscape through an institutional lens. It examines the legislative and judicial bodies, minor parties, lobby groups, the media and the citizenry, providing historical and contemporary facts, explaining political issues and examining new challenges. The second edition has been thoroughly updated to reflect the application of political theories in today's civic environment. New spotlight boxes highlight issues including marriage equality, COVID-19 and federalism, the inclusion of First Nations peoples in the political system, and gender equality in public policy. Short-answer, reflection, research and discussion questions encourage students to test and extend their knowledge of each topic and to clearly link theory to practice.

Written in an accessible and engaging style, *Australian Politics in the Twenty-first Century* is an invaluable introduction to the Australian political system.

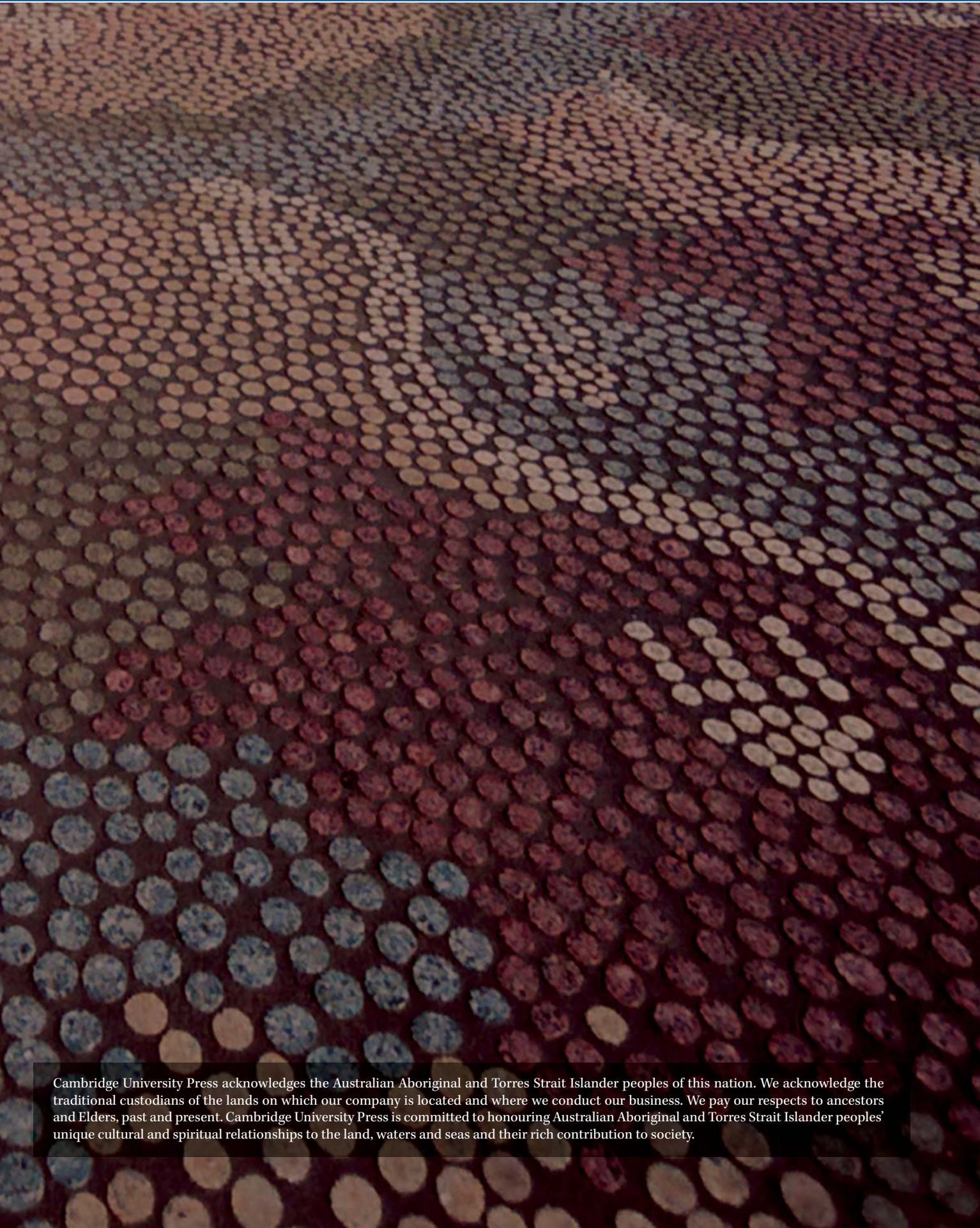
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GUIDE TO ONLINE RESOURCES

Additional online resources for *Australian Politics in the Twenty-first Century* for students are freely available at www.cambridge.org/highereducation/isbn/9781009108232/resources. Visit the site to explore suggested responses to short-answer questions and response prompts for reflection questions for each chapter, and a glossary of key terms.



This icon is used throughout the book to indicate that a resource is available online.

AUSTRALIAN POLITICS IN THE TWENTY-FIRST CENTURY

Chapter 1

Introduction to 21st-century Australian politics

Reflection questions 1.1

1.

Can you think of an aspect of your daily life that is not political?
To what degree is your personal life free from politics? To what extent are all family relationships, even friendships, political? Are activities and practices such as exercising, vegetarianism, enjoying music, popular culture and art free from politics?

2.

List all the ways in which you regularly interact with governments.
What public services do you regularly use and how do governments shape access to these? For example, how do you travel to and from university and in what ways do governments regulate the transport sector? Are you employed? How do governments regulate aspects of working life?

Short-answer questions 1.1

1.

Which of Kelly’s five characteristics do you think continues to play the most significant role in Australian politics?
The White Australia policy legacy remains to this day. Debates about race and immigration are framed to privilege the views of white Australians in such a way so that white Australia is seen as the norm.

2.

Which of Kelly’s five characteristics do you think is least relevant in contemporary Australia?
Imperial benevolence has no significant role in shaping Australian responses to international events anymore. Australia now relies on the United States more than the United Kingdom for military and security support and assurances.

ABOUT THE AUTHORS

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