

Reform of Australia's electronic surveillance framework

The Australian Government Attorney-General's Department states on its website that it is currently '[d]eveloping a new legislative framework that is clearer, more coherent and better adapted to the modern world' (Reference 01 below).

The objective of reform is said to be to 'develop a new single Act that:

- better protects individuals' information and data, including by reflecting what it means to communicate in the 21st century,
- is clear, transparent and usable for operational agencies and oversight bodies, as well as industry who need to comply with the obligations of the framework,
- is modernised, streamlined and as technology-neutral as possible, by updating key concepts and clearly identifying the agencies that can seek access to this information,
- contains appropriate thresholds and robust, effective and consistent controls, limits, safeguards and oversight of the use of these intrusive powers, and
- ensures that law enforcement and security agencies have adequate and proportionate powers that enable them to identify, disrupt and investigate serious crimes and threats to security' (Reference 01 below).

The Government concludes that 'reform of Australia's electronic surveillance legislative framework is a significant long-term undertaking. The Government will continue to consult with stakeholders as part of the development of the reforms and while it prepares the draft legislation' (Reference 01 below).

References

01. [Reform of Australia's electronic surveillance framework](#)
02. [Reform of Australia's electronic surveillance framework discussion paper](#)