

Response attributable to Universities Australia spokesperson:

Universities are places where people can speak up, challenge ideas and hear views they may not agree with. Peaceful protest is an important part of that.

Universities also have clear legal obligations to uphold freedom of speech and academic freedom, and they take those responsibilities seriously.

At the same time, everyone has the right to feel safe and respected on campus.

These things can and must go together. Universities will continue to support robust debate and freedom of expression, while drawing a clear line at harassment, intimidation, discrimination and violence