

# The Australian Unemployed Workers Union

## Organisational Guiding Principles:

1. **Solidarity**
2. **Equality**
3. **Social Justice**
4. **Diversity**
5. **Democracy**
6. **Independence**
7. **Dignity**
8. **Respect**

### 1. **Solidarity**

The AUWU values the principle of unity. We know that through trust and cooperation our mission can be achieved and our vision realized. We stand by all unemployed and underemployed workers, united in our common struggle. We value mutual support and unity in the knowledge that, together we will achieve the common goal of fairness, justice and equal access to employment for all workers.

### 2. **Equality**

The AUWU adheres to the principle of equality. Within our organisation as within our communities, we believe that all have a right to fair and equal access to the resource needed for the pursuit of a meaningful and productive life.

### 3. **Social Justice**

The AUWU values the principle of justice for all peoples. We adhere to these principles as enshrined by the international Universal Declaration of Human Rights ratified by Australia in 1948.

### 4. **Diversity**

The AUWU values the diverse nature of our membership and our society. We do not and will not discriminate in decision making or action based on colour, race, gender, sexual preference, religion or lack of.

### 5. **Democracy**

AUWU is a community centred grassroots organisation. We support our members to bring forward issues and ideas and, within a framework of tolerance, we accept peaceful dissent. Where differences exist, we seek to find consensus and, where possible, through our decision-making processes we look to accept diverse outcomes. The role of our office bearers is to serve the membership, not to dictate or rule over them.

## **6. Independence**

The AUWU respects the right of its branches to operate autonomously. It is understood that our branches may have their own local priorities on regional as well as national issues. Therefore, it is accepted that independent branches may have the need to produce their own campaign materials, plan and conduct their own actions and produce their own unique products. In full consideration of this we do however advise, that branches conduct these activities within the parameters of our guiding principles. This will include transparent decision making' processes as a matter of core business. Any product, action or material that breaches or occurs outside of these guiding principles will be disregarded by AUWU National organising committee and considered invalid.

## **7. Dignity**

The AUWU respects the dignity of all people. We are committed in our representation of any person suffering the indignity of discrimination or punishment that quite often accompanies unemployment and underemployment.

## **8. Respect**

The AUWU is committed to maintaining the highest possible standard in all our public and organisational engagements. Through our membership, we commit to demonstrate respect toward all individuals and organisations. Further, we are committed to exercise and demonstrate the highest regard for all our organisational partners. We fully understand the importance of their support and welcome their camaraderie as we pursue a fully employed, socially engaged, equal and fair Australia.

**I have read and understood the above Guiding Principles and agree to uphold them as the**

**(PROPOSED- pending authorisation) AUWU OFFICE BEARER:<sup>1</sup>**

**Name:**

**Date:**

**Signature of proposed Office Bearer:**

**Signature of National Branch Coordinator or equivalent executive member:**

**Date:**

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<sup>1</sup> *Branch Coordinators, State Coordinators  
National and State committee members  
Executive  
Media Representatives  
Advocacy Phone Operators & Volunteers*