I resolutely believe that *respect for diversity* is a fundamental pillar in the eradication of racism, xenophobia and intolerance. There is no excuse for evading the responsibility of finding the most suitable path toward the elimination of any expression of discrimination against indigenous peoples.

—

Rigoberta Menchú Tum
Nobel Laureate
We live in a world that is globally-connected and rapidly changing. Transnational capital flows, technological and communication advances and increased human mobility have blurred boundaries and identities, profoundly changing how we live our lives, creating tensions, conflicts and challenges as well as new connections, encounters and opportunities.

How we understand and engage with these changes is rarely a straightforward process. The consequences and impacts of globalising processes on the lived human experience are complex and complicated. Our communities are becoming increasingly diverse and many long-standing concepts, such as identity and belonging, are being contested, challenged and redefined.

Such developments underpin the multi-faceted research activities of the Alfred Deakin Institute for Citizenship and Globalisation. The Institute seeks to lead international scholarship and actively share cutting-edge knowledge to shape agendas and inform debates.

By impacting on how emerging social and cultural problems are understood and addressed by leaders, policy-makers, key opinion makers and practitioners, the Institute meaningfully effects lived human experiences.

It endeavours to be genuinely global in its orientation, both in its research focus and operations. We seek to create partnerships local, national and international with outstanding researchers and committed organisations in order to better understand and address the challenges and opportunities of globalising processes and the consequent contestation of citizenship, identity and belonging.

This Strategic Research Plan 2015-2020 outlines what the Institute will achieve in its first five years as a major research initiative of Deakin University. It communicates how the Institute will generate knowledge that is conceptually and methodologically innovative whilst also contributing to solving tangible world problems through an intellectually-ambitious and stimulating research agenda.

We hope you will join with us and engage with our various research projects and dissemination activities.

Alfred Deakin Professor
Fethi Mansouri
Director - Alfred Deakin Institute for Citizenship & Globalisation
VISION

To create an internationally-leading social sciences and humanities institute whose high-impact knowledge creation and dissemination actively shapes agendas and informs debates to meaningfully effect lived human experiences.

MISSION

The Alfred Deakin Institute for Citizenship and Globalisation aims to understand complex social issues associated with globalising processes through innovative, mixed-method multidisciplinary research. With a focus on disseminating our research through high-impact channels, engaging in partnerships and supporting high-quality researchers and doctoral students, we seek to contribute to knowledge construction.
VALUES

DISCOVERY, EMPOWERMENT, CONNECTEDNESS, INCLUSION, OPENNESS AND JUSTICE

CULTURE & ENVIRONMENT

The Alfred Deakin Institute for Citizenship and Globalisation aims to create a vibrant research environment which supports excellence, innovation and collaboration amongst theorists and problem-oriented researchers who examine contentious and critical social issues.

The Institute supports its members through mentoring and training schemes, and helps to develop career pathways for our early career researchers and doctoral students. Open to new ways of thinking about and studying social phenomena, our membership is drawn from diverse disciplines and areas of study.

In cooperative spirit and practice, Institute researchers share a commitment to lead high-impact knowledge creation that has a meaningful and measurable effect on lived human experiences.
RESEARCH AGENDA

Our research agenda is concerned with complex and often contradictory meanings of citizenship, social inclusion and globalisation at the local, national and transnational levels.

The Institute’s research streams and support structures foster the study of complex social problems from a number of academic vantage points. In this way the differing manifestations of migration; tensions of transnational governance; viability of the nation-state; impact of globalising processes on concepts and experiences of identity, belonging, heritage and citizenship; lived politics of inclusion and exclusion; tensions in the human rights’ discourse; critical importance of cultural heritage; and related questions of justice and development are explored systematically and holistically.

Our four research streams - Culture and Heritage; Development and Human Rights; Diversity and Identity; and Governance and Security - support an overarching in-principled research agenda and foster opportunities for meaningful collaboration and professional development among researchers, students and external stakeholders with shared interests and priorities.

In conducting our research, we strive to advance theories that reflect the breadth and depth of the problems we seek to investigate.

Contributing to the construction of truly global knowledge, unconstrained by borders and boundaries, many of the methodologies we employ in our research projects are ‘transnational’, cross-cultural and international.

Our researchers employ data collection methods which are culturally-sensitive and facilitate genuine working partnerships between the ‘North’ and ‘South’ in an effort to bridge the global knowledge divide.

GLOBAL ENGAGEMENT

The Institute is committed to a genuinely worldly research agenda which reflects an empirical reality that the social, political and cultural issues Australia faces are interconnected with international influences and processes. Our approach to research and capacity-building reflects this global awareness as we endeavour to foster collaboration and partnerships with universities, civil society organisations and government agencies around the world. Specifically, the Institute has a concentration of expertise on the Asia-Pacific, the Middle East and North Africa, and Europe, and actively pursues collaborative interdisciplinary research with many partners in these regions.
OBJECTIVES & MEASURES

INCREASE THE QUALITY OF RESEARCH OUTPUTS
We will increase the quality, significance and volume of the Institute’s research outputs by:
- facilitating knowledge creation that is problem-driven, globally-oriented, empirically-based and socially-beneficial;
- fostering excellence in our members’ publications and research outputs;
- developing methodologies which are culturally-appropriate, participatory and conducive to meaningful partnerships in knowledge creation;
- growing our success rate in obtaining competitive research grants;
- broadening our international research footprint through strategic external partnerships; and
- aligning with national research quality benchmarking processes.

BUILD RESEARCH CAPACITY
We will build the research capacity of the Institute by:
- improving research training opportunities which enhance the quality and impact of our research outputs;
- attracting and supporting high-quality doctoral students;
- mentoring, training and providing support for early career researchers;
- growing members’ reputation and confidence as public intellectuals to inform and engage debate and policy action;
- promoting and supporting collaboration amongst the Institute’s members, students and external stakeholders; and
- building relationships with community and industry partners in Australia and internationally in order to generate cutting-edge, world-leading research in the humanities and social sciences.

ENHANCE OUR IMPACT
We will enhance the impact of the Institute by:
- generating research that stimulates public debate and contributes to policy formation and practical outcomes;
- fostering a generation of researchers with enhanced critical thinking skills and the capacity to conduct innovative research of immediate relevance to emerging societal challenges;
- connecting and engaging with leaders, policy-makers, key opinion makers and practitioners in our core areas of expertise;
- facilitating knowledge transfer and public debate through the hosting of high impact symposia, seminars, and public lectures;
- attracting leading thinkers and scholars to the Institute as a basis for exploring and generating big ideas for future research agendas; and
- initiating national and international research collaboration with leading academic institutions.