

# Inquiry into the competitive neutrality of Australia’s national broadcasters

## Submission – Anonymous 13 (21 June 2018)

### Question 8: Considering the commercial activities of the national broadcasters (e.g. where they are selling or purchasing goods and services), is there evidence that they have taken undue advantage of their government ownership, to the detriment of competitive outcomes?

### No

### Question 9: What is the differential impact of regulation on commercial and national broadcasters, and is there evidence of consequent adverse impacts on competition and outcomes?

### To my knowledge there is no differential impact and no evidence of consequent adverse impacts

### Question 10: Is the reporting and accountability by the national broadcasters on their best endeavours to observe competitive neutrality adequate?

Yes

Question 11: Are you aware of any specific instances where the ABC or SBS may have received any other competitive advantage, due to their public ownership, to the detriment of a private competitor?

### No but private competitors receive advantages and pressures from advertisers and financial incentives

### Question 12: The SBS Charter requires it to take into account the activities of the ABC and community television on radio and television. In the context of the competitive neutrality principles how in your view, is the SBS complying with this requirement? From your perspective does it adequately cover the activities of the SBS?

### It complies with its charter

### Question 13: From your perspective do the national broadcasters seek a balance between competing in the market and complementing the market? Is that balance the same for traditional broadcasting and for new digital platforms?

### This is a complex matter. I do not think the ABC is competing because this is not in its charter. Obviously it has to use modern methods and ways of attracting listeners/viewers.

### Question 14: Do you have comment on these guiding principles?

On the occasions that I do listen or watch commercial broadcasters I often find comments biased or unconstructive. It appears designed to entertain or sensationalise but not to inform.