

Competition policy submission.

Key areas of competition that need to be addressed for Australia to prosper.

1. Import of manufactured products. The goal here is to encourage home grown business.

There needs to be strict control over foreign investment. Is it acceptable for a foreigner to market goods and services in Australia cheaper than their Australian counterparts? There are countless examples of this happening on a regular basis. Food is imported and marketed from all over the world at prices that no Australian producer can compete with. Telecommunications services are provided overseas because labour is cheaper.

The issue here is that Australia cannot compete with mass produced products imported from overseas where there is an enormous disparity between respective populations. Governments have a role in protecting the weak and quite clearly Australia is at a significant disadvantage when it comes to population.

2. Export of Australian raw materials.

In order to address the disparity above, it is essential that Australia uses its raw material bounty as a lever to redress its competitive disadvantage. Unless we add some value to our natural resources, then we are condemning the Australian population to a future of poverty when our natural resources dwindle.

Again there are countless examples of this. Australia is sending liquefied natural gas overseas at prices well below the price that household consumers pay. We send iron ore from one side of the Australia and coal from the other side to be combined in the process of making steel in another country.

In recent history, mass produced consumer product and international trade and has grown exponentially. Smaller populated but natural resource rich nations all over the world face the problems outlined above. It is time that the nations faced with this problem form a cartel to ensure that their natural resource advantage is used to counteract their population disadvantage. Resource Rich Population Poor (RRPP) nations are facing an uncertain future unless governments take action to address the problem.