



## **MEDIA RELEASE**

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### **ABA joins colleagues in Malaysia in opposing proposed anti-terror laws**

The Australian Bar Association (ABA) has called for the serious concerns of three Malaysian Bars over proposed anti-terror laws in Malaysia to be heard.

On 10 April the Malaysian Bar, the Sabah Law Association and the Advocates' Association of Sarawak issued a joint statement detailing a series of serious concerns over the impact of the Prevention of Terrorism Act 2015 ("POTA") which began its passage through the Malaysian Parliament on 7 April.

"The key concern expressed by our colleagues is that under this legislation, people may be held in detention without trial, and judicial discretion is seriously eroded," said Fiona McLeod SC, ABA President.

"Our respected colleagues, across three Bars, have raised significant issues, which at their foundation indicate a potential to erode the rule of law and the proper administration of justice, and question the constitutional validity of aspects of the bill. They must be heard," she said.

*\*See the joint statement of the three Malaysian Bars [here](#).*

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