

18<sup>th</sup> of November 2019

## MEDIA STATEMENT

### Concerns Over the Recent Findings Islamophobia Register

The Australian National Imams Council (ANIC) notes the release today of a research report on Islamophobia by Charles Sturt University. The report analyses 349 incidents of Islamophobia which were reported to the Islamophobia Register during 2016 and 2017.

The full report can be found at <http://www.islamophobia.com.au/wp-content/uploads/2019/11/Islamophobia-Report-2019-2.pdf>.

The report highlights the risks and impact of the increasing experience of Islamophobia in Australia. It is also apparent that women have suffered the brunt of Islamophobic attacks. Most recently mosques in Canberra, Brisbane and Townsville were also targeted. It is a traumatic experience for all concerned.

According to Bilal Rauf, ANIC Media Spokesperson:

“Islamophobia is unacceptable in our diverse, multicultural society. Everyone should feel safe as a member of our society. It is critical that steps are taken to address the rising experience of Islamophobia.

Change starts from the top and from the leaders who represent our country and society. As such, ANIC calls upon the Australian Government to make a clear stand against Islamophobia.”

ANIC encourages all Australian Muslims to report all Islamophobic incidents.

**You may contact ANIC's Spokesperson, Bilal Rauf in relation to this media statement on 1300 765 940 or [spokesperson@anic.org.au](mailto:spokesperson@anic.org.au)**