

## **AUSTRALIA**

### Civics and Citizenship Education: The Hope for Democracy

Australia is a well-established and robust democracy, but it faces challenges to its democracy. The purpose of this essay is to focus on the most recent period of Australian Civics and Citizenship Education to identify how it has addressed those challenges through school education. This chapter explores two major initiatives in Australian Civics and Citizenship Education and reflects upon the degree of their success. These initiatives have been deliberately chosen as they provide lessons for Australian educators to learn as well as valuable insights for other countries considering developing, reviewing or revitalizing their civic education programs in schools. While both examples relate to civic education in schools these are not micro examples but rather an analysis of what can happen when major, national initiatives are undertaken in Civics and Citizenship Education.