

Does Malcolm Turnbull hold Australian writers in such disdain that this draft legislation might succeed and abolish the restrictions on parallel imports.

Australia will vote shortly to elect a new government and I know where my vote will not be going.

Has anyone in the government thought about writers who will pack up and leave Australia and settle where their work is valued.

I think the below excerpt says it all!

Excerpt Snapshot of the Week London Bookfair.

Meanwhile, in Australia another dispute is making headlines. This is the proposal by the government to abolish the restrictions on parallel imports under which titles originally published in another country have to be made available from the local publisher or distributor within 14 days. If they are not made available, a bookseller is able to source those titles from wherever it chooses. If parallel import restrictions are lifted, a bookseller could buy the US edition of a UK title, thus possibly jeopardising the viability of the local publishing operation.

The proposals dominated proceedings at the recent Australian Book Industry Awards in Sydney, where speaker after speaker attacked the draft legislation. Richard Flanagan, who won the Man Booker with *The Narrow Road to the Deep North* said that removing parallel import restrictions would “destroy any future for Australian writers”. Jonathan Franzen said: “Even America is not so slavishly subservient to a theory of the free market that we don’t protect our authors, our booksellers, and our publishers.”

Mr Turnbull listen to the writers of this wonderful country and throw the draft legislation into the rubbish bin of bad ideas.

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