Dear Editor

Why talk down the prospects for constitutional change, particularly those of the Republic? (Frozen Continent, SMH 29 March). It sounds as if it's not even worth trying. How very disappointing coming a day after George Williams was announced as the only participant in the 2020 Summit Governance Group who also has a prominent official position in a republican organisation, in addition to his other attributes.

What's needed for the Summit is enthusiasm and ideas about how to implement the Republic in the minimum time.

The Republic is essentially "government by the people". We are confident that voters will make their views clear about this change and their preferred method for selecting their own head of state in one or more non-binding indicative votes followed by a referendum.

Yes, politicians have a role to play in introducing the Republic but the grassroots campaign is just as important, if not more so. If you want a Republic tell your local, State and federal members.

If it's left to the constitutional lawyers, we may never get one.

Sarah Brasch National Convenor Women for an Australian Republic Canberra ACT