

Kamala Harris Critiques Musk and Warns of 1930s Parallels at Gold Coast Conference

At the 2025 Australian Real Estate Conference on the Gold Coast, former U.S. Vice President Kamala Harris delivered a pointed address to an audience of 4,500 real estate professionals. Without directly naming Elon Musk, she criticized his recent remarks suggesting that empathy is a weakness in Western civilization, stating, "Imagine. No, it's a sign of strength to have some level of curiosity and concern and care about the wellbeing of others." Harris emphasized the importance of empathy as a strength, countering Musk's viewpoint.

Harris also expressed concerns about the current global political climate, cautioning against isolationist tendencies and urging the audience to "remember the 1930s." She highlighted the dangers of nationalism and the importance of international cooperation, reflecting on historical lessons to avoid repeating past mistakes.

Additionally, Harris addressed the rapid advancement of artificial intelligence, acknowledging its potential benefits while warning of its risks, including job displacement and the spread of misinformation. She called for a balanced approach to innovation, ensuring that vulnerable populations are protected and that ethical considerations guide technological development.

The conference, held at the Gold Coast Convention and Exhibition Centre, continues through Monday, featuring other speakers such as British entrepreneur Steven Bartlett and Sydney real estate agent David Walker. Harris's appearance marks her first speaking engagement in Australia, and she received a standing ovation after her address.