



Australian Institute of International Affairs *Victoria*

THE 2022-23 YEAR IN REVIEW

SPEAKER EVENTS/WEBINARS

YOUNG PROFESSIONALS

INTERNATIONAL
CAREERS
CONFERENCE

SIR ZELMAN
COWEN ORATION



The Power of the Pope in Global Affairs

Professor Francis Campbell, Vice Chancellor, The University of Notre Dame

Wednesday 13 July: 5.30 pm – 6.30 pm AEST, **Webinar**

2029 will mark 100 years of the establishment of a sovereign Vatican City, during which the Pope has played a formative role in international-political discourse. The power of the Pope notably extends far beyond the 1.2 billion adherents of Catholicism. By reconciling religious duties and diplomatic missions, the papacy has forged both a unique and significant position as a global actor in contemporary international relations.



Historically speaking, Pope John Paul II had been a key voice for Solidarity movements in Poland during the Cold War, after expressing concerns of compromised religious freedoms under USSR governance for Polish civil society.

In a post-Cold War context, the Pope had also been an instrumental facilitator of Cuba-US bilateral talks, supporting the Obama administration's relaxation of an embargo against the predominantly Catholic neighbouring state.

The appointment of Pope Francis in 2013 has seen an emphasis on pressing humanitarian issues from the Vatican, particularly drawing attention to the ongoing refugee crisis and global poverty. Demonstrating a commitment to matters that are both widespread and systemic, the Pope has a greater audience and capacity to assert its foreign policy agenda than ever before.

To what extent does the influence of the Pope permeate the borders of Vatican City? How does holding formalised power in international forums impact which issues emerge on the global political agenda? What are the primary diplomatic objectives of the Vatican City under the papacy of Pope Francis?

AIIA Victoria invites you to join Prof. Francis Campbell to discuss this topical issue.



Professor Francis Campbell joined the Foreign and Commonwealth Office (FCO) as a member of Her Majesty's Diplomatic Service in 1997. He has worked at the United Nations Security Council in New York, the European Union, and at the Foreign & Commonwealth Office (FCO) in London and on diplomatic postings overseas. From 1999-2003, he served on the staff of the then Prime Minister Tony Blair, first as a Policy Adviser in the No.10 Policy Unit, and then as a Private Secretary to the Prime Minister. He also served on secondment with Amnesty International as the Senior Director of Policy. From 2005-2011, he served as Her Majesty's Ambassador to the Holy See. From 2011-13, he served as Deputy High Commissioner in Pakistan. From 2013-2014 he was the Head of the Policy Unit

in the FCO and Director of Innovation at UK Trade and Investment. From 2014-2020, Professor Campbell served as Vice Chancellor of St. Mary's University in London and also Professor of International Relations, while on special leave from the Foreign Office. In February 2020, Professor Campbell became the fourth Vice Chancellor of The University of Notre Dame Australia. He also holds the position of Professor, International Relations.

[BOOK ONLINE HERE](#)

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Webinar: Free for all AIIA members. Student Non-Members \$5. Non-Members \$10



The IAEA, Iraq, and the Future of Non-Proliferation

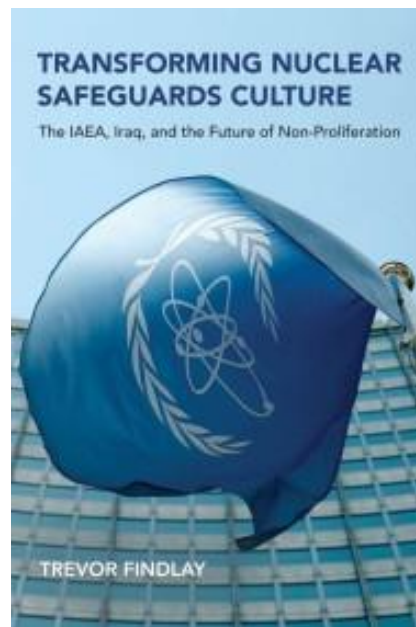
Dr Trevor Findlay, Principal Fellow, The University of Melbourne

Thursday 21 July: 5pm for 5.30pm – 6.30pm AEST at Dyason House, 124 Jolimont Road, East Melbourne

The pursuit of nuclear non-proliferation appears increasingly challenging in 2022. As regional conflicts dominate headlines during this volatile period for global security, ensuring a robust international safeguards system for non-proliferation is more urgent than ever.

In [*Transforming Nuclear Safeguards Culture*](#) (MIT Press, June 2022), Trevor Findlay investigates the role that organisational culture may play in preventing the spread of nuclear weapons, examining particularly how it affects the nuclear safeguards system of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA).

Sharing his findings from a case study on Iraq's nuclear proliferation efforts, Trevor Findlay seeks to identify how the IAEA's organisational culture may have contributed to its failure to detect Iraq's attempts to acquire illicit nuclear capabilities prior to the 1990 Gulf War, and how it has sought to change its safeguards culture since then.



How does the international community ensure that non-nuclear states do not acquire such weapons? How is the IAEA evolving?

AIIA Victoria invites you to join Trevor Findlay, one of the world's leading experts on the International Atomic Energy Agency, as he shares his insights into global non-proliferation efforts.



Dr Trevor Findlay has had almost fifty years' experience in international relations as a scholar, author and practitioner, working with governments, international organisations, non-governmental organisations and in academia. His lifelong specialisation has been nuclear governance, particularly disarmament, arms control, non-proliferation, nuclear safeguards, the peaceful uses of nuclear energy and nuclear security. He has also worked on chemical and biological disarmament and UN peacekeeping operations. He is considered one of the world's leading experts on the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA). Currently a Principal Fellow at the School of Social and Political Sciences at the University of Melbourne, he has also been a member of the United Nations Secretary-General's Advisory Board for Disarmament Matters, the Board of the UN Institute for Disarmament Research (UNIDIR) from 2012 to 2017, and Chair of both Boards for 2017 alongside 13 years in the Australian diplomatic service.

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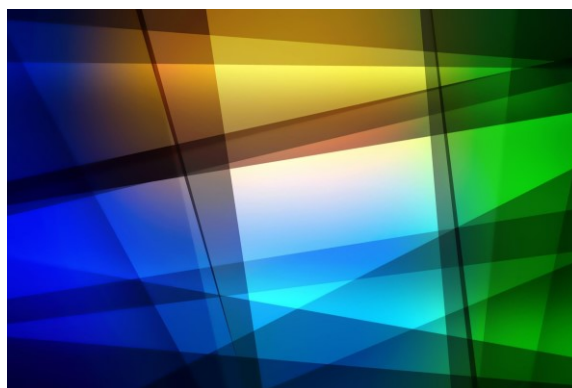
Webinar: Free for all AIIA members. Student Non-Members \$5. Non-Members \$10.

India Australia Economic Cooperation and Trade Agreement (ECTA) Forging New Opportunities - What Lies Ahead?

Dr. Pradeep Taneja, Mr. Robert Law and Ms. Molina Asthana, moderated by Ms. Rohini Kappadath

Tuesday 26 July 2022 5.30pm for 6:00pm – 7:15pm (AEST), 1:30pm – 2:45pm (IST)
Yasuko Hiraoka Myer Room, Sidney Myer Asia Centre, The University of Melbourne, Parkville

India is the world's largest democracy and is one of the fastest growing major economies. Its large population, diverse economy and growth trajectory present significant trade and investment opportunities for Australia and Australian businesses. Many sectors would benefit from an increase in trade and investment with India, including agriculture, education, energy, resources, tourism and financial services.



In April this year, the Australian and Indian Governments signed an interim trade and investment agreement - *the Economic Cooperation and Trade Agreement (ECTA)*. The agreement is in advance of a formal Comprehensive Economic Cooperation Agreement, which will continue to be negotiated by the two Governments. The ECTA has specific commitments on certain agricultural products, including sheep meat, wool, seafood, and wine. It also provides a new framework to support the recognition of professional qualifications, and procedures for licensing and registration between professional bodies.

What impact will the ECTA have on two-way trade & investment between India and Australia? What are the challenges to negotiating the Comprehensive Economic Cooperation Agreement (CECA)? What effects will rising tensions in the Indo-Pacific have on the flow of goods, services, capital and labour? How does the ECTA seek to deepen the Australia-India strategic partnership?

In partnership with Asialink Business and DFAT Victoria State Office, AIIA Victoria invites you to join a panel discussion with Dr. Pradeep Taneja, Mr. Robert Law and Ms. Molina Asthana. The discussion will be moderated by Ms. Rohini Kappadath.

Dr. Pradeep Taneja is a senior lecturer in Asian politics, political economy and international relations at the University of Melbourne, where he is also an academic fellow at the Australia India Institute and a member of the Centre for Contemporary Chinese Studies. Previously, Dr. Taneja was Director of International Programs in the Graduate School of Management at La Trobe University and currently sits on the editorial board of the *Journal of Asian Security and International Affairs*.

[BOOK ONLINE HERE](#)

In-person: AIIA VIC Premium and Student members free; Regular members \$20. Non-members \$30. Student Non-members \$10.

Webinar: Free for all AIIA members. Student Non-Members \$5. Non-Members \$10

Asialink Business Guests (In-person + Webinar): Free

Mr. Robert Law is the Director of Advisory & Insights at Asialink Business. Mr. Law has extensive experience in advising businesses on how to unlock their growth potentials in Southeast Asia, North Asia and India. He is also a trusted advisor to Federal and State governments on policies and programs to boost business engagement in Asia. Prior to his role at Asialink Business, Mr. Law held roles at DFAT and the Office of National Intelligence (ONI).

Ms. Rohini Kappadath is the General Manager at the Immigration Museum and on the Executive Leadership Team for Museums Victoria. Ms. Kappadath has over 25 years' experience working in Australian and Asian markets across diverse industries, particularly in Information Technology. In 2015, she was awarded the Victorian Winner of the Telstra Business Women's award in the Corporate and Private Category. Ms. Kappadath is the former Chair Ministerial Business Advisory Council and Commonwealth Bank Cultural Diversity Advisory Council.

Ms. Molina Asthana is the first South Asian woman to be elected President Elect of the Law Institute of Victoria. She is also the National President of the Asian Australian Lawyers Association. She is an experienced commercial lawyer having practiced at top-tier Australian law firms and the Victorian Government Solicitor's Office and in the Supreme Court of India. Molina also serves on various boards including AMES Australia, Graduate House of the University of Melbourne, Good Shepherd ANZ, Gymnastics Victoria, AFL South East Commission, Table Tennis Victoria and Australasian Centre for Human Rights and Health. She is also the co-founder of the Asian Australian Alliance and the founder of the organisation Multicultural Women in Sport. She has received multiple awards for her work including the Victorian Multicultural Award for Excellence twice

This will be an in-person event open to all and will also be streamed online via Zoom. Registrations will close on Tuesday 26 July at 3pm AEST, after which you will receive a follow-up email containing details of how to join the Zoom webinar. The event will commence at 6:00pm AEST (Melbourne time, UTC+10).

'Disclaimer: Please note, registration information will be shared between the AIIA and our event partner Asialink Business.'

Schedule

5:30 pm: Registration commences
6:00 pm: Seminar (live-streamed)
7:15 pm: Networking
8:00 pm: Event concludes

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In-person: AIIA VIC Premium and Student members free; Regular members \$20. Non-members \$30. Student Non-members \$10.

Webinar: Free for all AIIA members. Student Non-Members \$5. Non-Members \$10

Asialink Business Guests (In-person + Webinar): Free

Young Professionals Networking Evening

Monday 8 August: 6pm – 8pm at The European Bier Café, Level 1, 120 Exhibition Street, Melbourne 3000



AIIA VIC warmly welcomes you to our next Young Professionals Networking Evening.

All welcome!!

We will be joined by New Colombo Plan Alumni who will be sharing their experiences of their scholarship in the Indo – Pacific region.

All you need is an interest in mingling with extraordinary, like-minded individuals in a relaxed setting.

With the growing importance of collaboration across fields and sectors, we are excited to bring you this event promoting connectedness across all areas of international affairs.

Entry to this event is FREE for all AIIA VIC Members as well as New Colombo Plan Scholars and Alumni. Non-member tickets are available for \$15 per person.

Dress code: Smart Casual

Come along and join us for after-work drinks and engaging conversations!

[BOOK ONLINE HERE](#)

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**Australian Institute
of International Affairs
Victoria**

Fellow's Address:

The End of Security Multilateralism in Asia: What it means for the region's future and the world

Professor Nick Bisley FAIIA, La Trobe University

Wednesday 17 August: 5.30pm for 6pm – 7pm AEST at Dyason House, 124 Jolimont Road, East Melbourne

In the decade or so after the Cold War's end, Asia created an extensive array of multilateral security mechanisms and institutions.

What came to be known as the region's 'security architecture' was not well designed nonetheless it promised an array of means through which Asia's states and societies could navigate a more complex setting as the balance of power changed and globalisation shifted patterns of economic, diplomatic and cultural influence.



Where once inclusive and cooperative approaches to security were at the heart of efforts to create a durable regional order, there are now exclusive and competitive dynamics driving events.

This address assesses the nature of security multilateralism in Asia and will argue that the process that had been so dynamic in the early part of the century is effectively dead. It will explain why this is the case and the consequences of this for Asia and the larger dynamics of world politics.

In 2020 Professor Nick Bisley was recognised as a Fellow of the Australian Institute of International Affairs for his distinguished contribution to education and the national discussion on foreign affairs, particularly on Asia. At this Fellow's Address Nick will be presented with his Fellow's Award by Zara Kimpton OAM, the National Vice President of the AIIA.



Professor Nick Bisley, FAIIA is the Dean of the School of Humanities and Social Sciences and Professor of International Relations at La Trobe University. His research and teaching expertise is in Asia's international relations, great power politics and Australian foreign and defence policy. Nick is a Fellow of the Australian Institute of International Affairs and the Secretary of the Council of Australasian Deans of Arts, Social Sciences and Humanities. He is a member of the advisory board of *China Matters* and a member of the Council for Security and Cooperation in the Asia-Pacific and served as the Editor-in-Chief of the Australian Journal of International Affairs between 2013 and 2018, the country's oldest scholarly journal in the field of International Relations. He has been a Senior Research Associate of the International

Institute of Strategic Studies and a Visiting Fellow at the East West-Center in Washington DC. Nick is the author of many works on international relations, including *Issues in 21st Century World Politics, 3rd Edition* (Palgrave, 2017), *Great Powers in the Changing International Order* (Lynne Rienner, 2012), and *Building Asia's Security* (IISS/Routledge, 2009, Adelphi No. 408).

[BOOK ONLINE HERE](#)

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In-person: AIIA Premium members and Young Professionals free. AIIA Members \$20. Non-Members \$30. Student Non-Members \$10

Webinar: Free for all AIIA members. Student Non-Members \$5. Non-Members \$10.

Young Professionals Debate Evening

Thursday August 18th: 6pm – 8pm at Dyason House 124 Jolimont Road, East Melbourne 3002



AIIA VIC warmly welcomes you to our Young Professionals Debate Evening.

All welcome!

Join us for our first ever live debate, featuring candidates debating whether Australia should adopt a more independent foreign policy.

Foreign policy is at the forefront of many national agendas, Australia included. Guided by a commitment to regionalism and multilateralism, Australia seeks to support stability and prosperity and tackle global challenges.

All you need is an interest in mingling with extraordinary, like-minded individuals in a relaxed setting.

Entry to this event is FREE for AIIA VIC Young Professionals Members as well as New Colombo Plan Scholars and Alumni. Non-member tickets are available for \$30 per person.

Dress code: Smart Casual

Come along and join us for after-work drinks and engaging conversations!

[BOOK ONLINE HERE](#)

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In-person: AIIA VIC Premium and Young Professionals Member free; Regular members \$20. Non-members \$30. Student Non-members \$10; NCP Scholars and Alumni fee

16th INTERNATIONAL CAREERS CONFERENCE

FRIDAY 26 AUGUST 2022

08:00	REGISTRATION	
08:50	WELCOMES	
	Richard Iron CMG OBE	President, AIIA Victoria
09:00	KEYNOTE ADDRESS	
	The Hon. Lisa Singh	CEO, Australia-India Institute
09:30	PANEL: GOVERNMENT & DIPLOMACY	
	Melissa Conley Tyler FAIIA	Program Lead, Asia-Pacific Development Diplomacy & Defence Dialogue
	Andrew Cumpston	Victorian State Director, Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT)
	Catriona Boyd	Deputy Consul-General, British Consulate General, Melbourne
	Mazita Marzuki	Consul-General, Consulate General of Malaysia, Melbourne
10:30	MORNING TEA	
11:00	PANEL: INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS	
	Molina Asthana	National President, Asian Australian Lawyers Association
	Leigh Howard	CEO, Asialink Business
	Amit Singh	Managing Director, Accenture
	Layusa Isa Odidi	Partner, Dalberg
12:00	PANEL: NOT-FOR-PROFIT, DEVELOPMENT AND AID	
	Michael Fletcher	National Coordinator - Movement Engagement, Australian Red Cross
	Selena Ng	Manager, Consulting, Social Ventures Australia and Board Member, The Global Foundation
	Anthea Spinks	Director of Programs, Oxfam Australia
	Hayley Cull	PLAN International
13:00	LUNCH	
14:00	CAREER SPECIFIC MASTERCLASSES	
15:05	AFTERNOON TEA	
15:35	CAREER SPECIFIC MASTERCLASSES CONTINUED	
17:00	NETWORKING AND DRINKS	
18:00	CONFERENCE CLOSE	

CAREER SPECIFIC MASTERCLASSES

LOCATION: THE PAVILION AUDITORIUM (LEVEL 8)	
1. Intelligence/Cyber	Jenny , Australian Geospatial Intelligence Organisation and Edan , Defence Intelligence Organisation, and a representative from the Australian Signals Directorate (ASD)
2. Defence & Security	Steven Briggs , Acting Director, Defence Graduate and Entry Level Programs, Department of Defence
3. Consular Affairs	Laura Hughes and Josh Featherston , both Research Analysts at the Consulate-General of Japan, and Alfredo L. Gonzalez , Vice Consul, U.S. State Department
4. Foreign Affairs & Diplomacy	Brian Borgonha , Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade
5. Foreign Affairs & Diplomacy	Jessica Baldock , Policy Officer, Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade VIC State Office
LOCATION: THE GREEN ROOM (PAVILION FOYER LEVEL 8)	
6. Not-for-profit (Youth)	Thenu Herath , CEO, Oaktree
LOCATION: THE PAVILION FOYER (LEVEL 8)	
7. United Nations	Eleanor Gordon , Peacebuilding Consultant and Senior Lecturer, Monash University
8. Think Tanks	Eloise Dolan , Program Manager, Asia Society Australia
9. Not-for-profit (Aid)	Graham Strong , Chief Field Impact Officer, World Vision Australia and David Faulmann , Deputy Director, Programmatic Partnerships, Monash University
LOCATION: MEMBERS LOUNGE (LEVEL 7)	
10. International Business (GOV)	Laura Burke , Regional Specialist - Southeast Asia, Global Victoria
11. Victorian Government	Valentina Tan , Research and Industry Development Office, mRNA Victoria
12. International Business (PRIV)	Dylan Broomfield , VIC Chamber of Commerce and Industry

Scan to access the Conference Booklet:



The Ukraine War and Strategic Implications for Australia

Richard Iron CMG OBE

Tuesday 30 August: 5.30pm for 6-7pm at Dyason House, 124 Jolimont Road, East Melbourne

Please note that this event will be held under the Chatham House Rule and is in-person only.

Dominating headlines throughout 2022, Russia's invasion of Ukraine has demonstrated that a major war in Europe has global implications. Whether it be the possibility of famine in Africa, the reconsideration of national interests and alliances, the impact of potential nuclear escalation, or our understanding of the nature of war itself, the Ukraine War is proving to be one of the seminal events of the 21st Century.



The war also appears to indicate that the ideological contest between democratic liberalism and authoritarian dictatorship is just as relevant now as it was during the Cold War.

Richard Iron will discuss the wider implications of the conflict, the factors that might influence how it might end, the impact it may have on tensions in our own region, and Australia's evolving regional and global role.

Will Ukraine be able to turn the balance of military advantage to its favour with ongoing financial and military support from the West? How long can Putin control the narrative of the war at home? What are the implications for the current tensions over Taiwan? And what role does Australia have to play?

AIIA Victoria invites you to join Richard Iron to discuss the strategic implications of the Ukraine war for Australia.



Richard Iron CMG OBE is President of AIIA Victoria. He previously served in the British Army in Northern Ireland, the Falkland Islands, Oman, the Balkans, Sierra Leone and Iraq. He was a visiting fellow at the Changing Character of War programme at the University of Oxford and was lead editor of British Generals in Blair's Wars. He is currently working on how wars end.

[BOOK ONLINE HERE](#)

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Registered Office: Dyason House, 124 Jolimont Road, East Melbourne, VIC 3002

Telephone (03) 9654 7271 Email: events.vic@internationalaffairs.org.au

Website: www.internationalaffairs.org.au/victoria

Highs and Lows of Australia's Relationship with Timor-Leste

Dr Helen Hill, Victoria University

Thursday 15 September 2022: 5.30pm for 6pm – 7pm AEST Dyason House, 124 Jolimont Road, East Melbourne

30 August 2022 marks the 22nd anniversary of the UN supervised Popular Consultation or referendum, which led to independence for Timor-Leste. INTERFET, the Australian-led International Force for East Timor contained more than 5,000 Australian soldiers, making it Australia's largest military deployment since the Vietnam War.

Many Australians are rightly proud of their country's contribution to Timor-Leste's independence, which could be seen as a historical corrective to Australia's long-standing support for Indonesia's invasion and forced integration of East Timor in 1975-76.



Yet despite the goodwill INTERFET engendered in Timor-Leste for the Australian people, relations between the two nations rapidly became undermined by contentious negotiations over control of the lucrative oil and gas fields in the Timor Sea. While the 'Maritime Boundary' issue has been solved, it is clear now that bilateral differences of opinion over the processing of the jointly owned resources are by no means a thing of the past.

Nevertheless, it would be a mistake to see Australia's relations with Timor-Leste purely through the lens of the hydrocarbon resources at the bottom of the sea. AIIA Victoria invites you to join Dr Helen Hill to discuss the many other aspects to the relationship between the two close neighbouring countries, including development assistance, commercial, people-to-people and civil society relations.



Dr Helen Hill first visited Portuguese Timor as a Monash University Masters student in Politics in February 1975. Following the Indonesian invasion, she was part of a group of Australian postgraduate students assisting Jose Ramos Horta establish the office of the Democratic Republic of Timor-Leste at the UN in New York. Following completion of her thesis on the Nationalist movement in Timor-Leste (later published as *Stirrings of Nationalism in East Timor: FRETILIN 1974-1978*), she was awarded a scholarship at the Australian National University Centre for Continuing Education where she researched *Non-formal Education and Development in Fiji, New Caledonia, and the US Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands*. Helen worked in the Australian aid program, for Members of Parliament and for two years conducted the Diploma Course in Youth and Development for the Commonwealth Youth Program, at the University of the South Pacific in Fiji. She has taught at Victoria University in Melbourne for 21 years, introducing a Bachelor's degree in Asia-Pacific Community Development. She led regular study tours to Timor-Leste and was involved in founding the Timor-Leste Studies Association with Michael Leach of Swinburne University. Since retiring from VU in 2012 she has largely lived in Timor-Leste doing short term consultancies for the national university, UNTL, for the Ministry of Education, the Human Capital Development Fund and the UNDP. She is working on a book on Timor-Leste's transition to Independence. Helen Hill was awarded the Medal of the Order of Timor from President Taur Matan Ruak in 2014 for contributions to the country, Timorese and Humanity, and served as Chair of the Australia-East Timor Association from 1999 to 2014.

[BOOK ONLINE HERE](#)

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Webinar: AIIA Members free. Non-members \$10. Student non-members \$5



Brazil's October Elections: Bye Bye Bolsonaro?

Dr Deborah Barros Leal Farias, The University of New South Wales

Wednesday 21 September 2022: 5pm for 5.30pm – 6.30pm at Dyason House, 124 Jolimont Road, East Melbourne

On October 2nd, close to 150 million Brazilians are expected to head to the polls to choose their next president. Assuming no dramatic unexpected event, the competition will be between the incumbent, President Jair Bolsonaro, and former president Luis Inacio 'Lula' da Silva.



President Jair Bolsonaro's most recent term has been defined by numerous controversies, propagating right-wing political positions. His opponent, Luis Inacio 'Lula' da Silva has gained substantial traction as a presidential candidate, given his stance on economic disparity and pledge to tackle hunger. Passionate supporters of both Bolsonaro and Lula represent a substantial portion of the Brazilian public, as oftentimes violent rallies have unfolded in the lead up to the election.

In the aftermath of the accelerated deforestation in the Amazon rainforest and the delivery of a public health response during the COVID-19 pandemic, the outcome of Brazil's general elections will have long-term ramifications for the nation's resilience. Dr Barros Leal Farias will provide an overview of this election in the context of contemporary Brazilian politics.

What are the key principles framing the Bolsonaro and Lula campaigns, and what are their strengths and weaknesses? What kind of future will the outcome of this election secure for the Brazilian public? With growing concerns of political violence, will the events of October enhance or undermine regional security?

AIIA Victoria invites you to join Dr Deborah Barros Leal Farias in a compelling discussion about the implications of these contentious elections for Brazilian politics.



Deborah Barros Leal Farias is a Brazilian-born Senior Lecturer at UNSW Sydney's School of Social Sciences, where she teaches Politics and International Relations. She has a multidisciplinary background: PhD in Political Science from UBC (Canada), as well as an MA in International Relations, and bachelor's degrees in economy and in Law from Brazilian institutions. Her current main areas of interest involve international organizations, as well as Brazilian politics and populism.

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Young Professionals Networking Evening

Monday 26 September: 6pm – 8pm at The European Bier Café, Level 1, 120 Exhibition Street, Melbourne 3000



AIIA VIC warmly welcomes you to our next Young Professionals Networking Evening.

All welcome!!

This time, we will be joined by government graduates who will share their experiences of their career journey in the sector.

All you need is an interest in mingling with like-minded individuals in a relaxed setting.

With the growing importance of collaboration across fields and sectors, we are excited to bring you this event promoting connectedness across all areas of international affairs.

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Dress code: Smart Casual

Come along and join us for after-work drinks and engaging conversations!
Light refreshments provided.

[BOOK ONLINE HERE](#)

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Continuity and Change in British Politics and Australia-UK Relations?

Dr Ben Wellings, Monash University

Tuesday 4 October 2022: 5.30pm for 6pm-7pm AEDT. Dyason House, 124 Jolimont Road, East Melbourne, VIC 3002

The United Kingdom now has its third ever female prime minister, after Liz Truss was received by Queen Elizabeth II in her last official function. Truss was elected as leader by grassroots members of the Conservatives to lead the party – and hence the nation – on a platform that positioned her as the continuity candidate from Boris Johnson.



Members of the Conservative party will be delighted that the continuity candidate got over the line. Similarly, strategists for the opposition parties – Labour, the Liberal Democrats and the Scottish National Party – will also be delighted. In electing Liz Truss as leader, Conservative members have increased their party's chances of losing the next general election.

This is because Truss essentially offers more of the same. Although Boris Johnson bequeaths Truss an imposing 73-seat majority, she enters 10 Downing Street at a moment when the views of the Conservative party and the experience of the wider electorate - in the throes of a cost-of-living crisis - are diverging.

What other challenges does Liz Truss face? What does this mean for Australia? Are there any implications for AUKUS, or the UK's 'tilt' towards the Indo-Pacific?

AIIA Victoria welcomes back Dr Ben Wellings for his insights into the UK's new political leadership, and its implications for bilateral relations with Australia.



Dr Ben Wellings is Senior Lecturer in Politics and International Relations at Monash University in Melbourne and director of the Monash Politics, Philosophy and Economics (PPE) degree. His research interests include nationalism in the United Kingdom and the European Union, and the international politics of the Anglosphere. He is the author of *English Nationalism and Euroscepticism* (Peter Lang, 2021) and *English Nationalism, Brexit and the Anglosphere* (Manchester University Press, 2019).

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Webinar: Free for all AIIA members. Student Non-Members \$5. Non-Members \$10.

Washington's Re-discovery of the Pacific

Associate Professor Patricia O'Brien, Georgetown University

Thursday 6 October 2022: **9am-10am AEDT** [USA: Wednesday 5 October 2022: 6pm-7pm EDT] **Webinar**

Traces of the United States' long and layered ties with the Pacific Islands are hard to find in Washington D.C. Apart from the names of iconic battles chiselled into the Washington Mall's second world war memorial, evidence of America's complex Pacific history stretching back to the beginning of the Republic is not there.

Until very recently, this absence was replicated throughout Washington's institutions, where the Pacific Islands have been at the back of mind since those epic battles were fought 80 years ago.

But over the past few months, things have changed. Responding to the increasing presence of China in the Pacific, most notably the security pact signed with the Solomon Islands in April, Washington is now undergoing a Pacific re-discovery that goes all the way to the top. On 28-29 September, US President Joe Biden hosted Pacific leaders at the White House for the first-ever US-Pacific Island Country Summit, to demonstrate the United States' deep and enduring partnership with Pacific Island countries and the Pacific region.

What are the key takeaways from the Summit? How might the Biden administration reshape its approach to the region? What role does Australia have to play?

AIIA Victoria invites you to join Patricia O'Brien to discuss the US's renewed geopolitical focus on the Pacific.



Associate Professor Patricia O'Brien is faculty in the Asian Studies Program at Georgetown University, Washington D.C. teaching on Pacific pasts, presents and futures. She is also a Visiting Fellow with the Department of Pacific Affairs at Australian National University, Canberra, where she was an Australian Research Council Future Fellow in the School of History from 2014 to 2019. From 2001 to 2013 she was the resident Australian and Pacific historian at Georgetown University. She was the J. D. Stout Fellow in New Zealand Studies at Victoria University Wellington in 2012 and the Jay I. Kislak Fellow in American Studies at the John W. Kluge Center at the Library of Congress, Washington DC in 2011.

She is the author of [Tautai: Sāmoa, World History and the Life and Ta'isi](#) (O. F. Nelson (2017)); *The Pacific Muse: Exotic Femininity and the Colonial Pacific* (2006) and is co-editor with Joy Damousi of *League of Nations: Histories, Legacies and Impact* (2018). She has also written numerous other Pacific-focused works on gender, empire, violence, and colonial cultural histories.



US Navy Hospital Ship USNS MERCY in Palau participating in Pacific Partnership, the largest annual multinational humanitarian assistance and disaster relief preparedness mission conducted in the Indo-Pacific.

[BOOK ONLINE HERE](#)

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Webinar: Free for all AIIA members. Student Non-Members \$5. Non-Members \$10.



Roundtable Discussion – Australian Ambassador to Ukraine

HE Mr Bruce Edwards

Tuesday 11 October 2022: **12pm-2pm**. DFAT Victoria State Office, Level 14, 55 Collins Street, Melbourne

AIIA Victoria and the Victoria State Office of the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade have pleasure in inviting you to join HE Mr Bruce Edwards, Australian Ambassador to Ukraine for a roundtable discussion.

This event will be held under the Chatham House Rule.

- 12pm-12.30pm: Light lunch provided, generously hosted by DFAT Victoria State Office.
- 12.30-12.40pm: Welcome and introductions from DFAT and AIIA.
- 12.40-1.40pm: Remarks by HE Mr Bruce Edwards, followed by open discussion.

Numbers strictly limited! Please [RSVP here](#) by **Tuesday 4 October 12pm**, and advise of any dietary requirements.



HE Mr Bruce Edwards is a career officer with the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade. He has previously served overseas as Deputy Head of Mission in Port of Spain and Beirut, as well as postings in Kyiv and Kabul. Mr Edwards holds a Master of Journalism from the University of Queensland; a Master of Arts and a Bachelor of Arts from Melbourne University; a Graduate Diploma (Hons) in Antarctic and Southern Ocean Studies from the University of Tasmania; and a Graduate Certificate of Humanitarian Leadership from Deakin University.



Australian Institute
of International Affairs
Victoria

Making the British H-Bomb in Australia – from the Monte Bellos to the 1956 Olympic Games

Sue Rabbitt Roff, University of Dundee

Wednesday 12 October: 5pm for 5.30pm – 6.30pm AEDT at Dyason House, 124 Jolimont Road, East Melbourne

October marks the seventieth anniversary of the first British nuclear test in Australia, in 1952. 130 kilometres off the Pilbara coast of Western Australia, the Monte Bello Islands were the site for what came to be known as 'Operation Hurricane'.



It was the first of several nuclear tests conducted on Australian territory in the 1950s, and the first ever conducted by the United Kingdom. Given the geopolitical implications of the Cold War and Australia's obligations to Britain as a Commonwealth nation, the Menzies government authorised the Monte Bello atomic bomb tests despite the hazards of radioactivity. Further tests continued until a month before the opening of the 1956 Olympic Games in Melbourne – despite the known dangers of fallout travelling from the testing site at Maralinga to cities in the east.

AIIA Victoria invites you to a discussion with Sue Rabbitt Roff as she challenges the official narrative of events based on extensive archival research in Australia, the UK and the USA.



Sue Rabbitt Roff is a social scientist and has published in political, educational and medical areas on a wide range of topics. Over the past 35 years she has conducted research on the long-term health effects on participants in UK nuclear tests which has been effective in winning more than 60 applications for service pensions in UK, Australia, New Zealand and France. She has taught at the University of Dundee for 20 years, while also working as an educational consultant with a particular interest in Professionalism. She taught at the University of Melbourne and Monash University in the 1970s, then became Information Officer for the

Petitioning Delegation of Democratic Republic of East Timor at the UN in New York. As a Non-Governmental representative to the United Nations she testified frequently in the Trusteeship and Decolonization Committees. Her collated writings on the weapons tests are at www.rabbittreview.com.

[If booking for the **webinar**, the access link will be emailed on the day of the event. The webinar will commence at 5.30pm AEDT]

[BOOK ONLINE HERE](#)

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Book Launch

Sanctions: What Everyone Needs to Know

Professor Bruce W. Jentleson, Duke University

Webinar: Thursday 13 October 2022: **11am-12pm AEDT** (USA: Wednesday 12 October 2022: 8pm-9pm EDT)

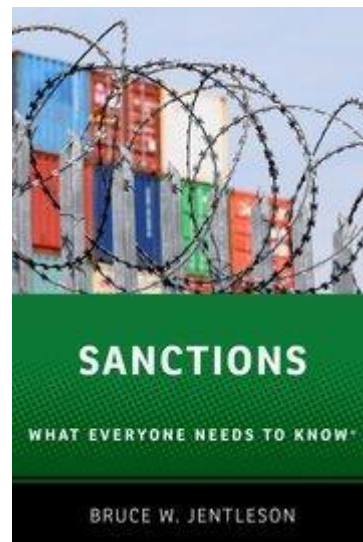
It's hard to browse the news without seeing reports of yet another imposition of economic sanctions by one country on another. The United States has sanctions against more than 30 countries, while Russia has repeatedly imposed sanctions against former Soviet republics. China has developed its own approach, including targeting private entities such as the NBA. Japan and South Korea have sanctioned each other over WWII and colonial legacies; Saudi Arabia against Qatar because of differences over Iran; and France, Germany, and Norway against Brazil over the Amazon forest and climate change.

In *Sanctions: What Everyone Needs to Know*, Bruce Jentleson - one of America's leading scholars on the subject - answers the fundamental questions about sanctions today. He demonstrates that examining sanctions is key to understanding international relations and explains how and why they will likely continue to bear on global politics.

This book launch will discuss sanctions comprehensively, explaining what works and what doesn't. It will provide a broad overview of sanctions in international politics today, drawing from cases around the world.

Why are sanctions used so frequently and what are their varieties? What are the key factors affecting the success of sanctions? Why have sanctions become the tool of first resort for states engaged in international conflict?

AIIA Victoria invites you to join Professor Bruce W. Jentleson to launch his book.



Bruce W. Jentleson is William Preston Few Professor of Public Policy and Professor of Political Science at Duke University. In 2020 he was the Des Ball Chair, College of Asia and the Pacific, Australia National University. Currently he is a Global Fellow of the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars and Non-Resident Senior Fellow at the Chicago Council on Global Affairs. He has served in a number of U.S. foreign policy positions, including as Senior Advisor to the State Department Policy Planning Director in the Obama Administration. In 2015-16 he was the Henry A. Kissinger Chair in Foreign Policy and International Relations at the John W. Kluge Center, Library of Congress. He received the 2018 American Political Science Association (APSA) International Security Section Joseph J. Kruzel Award for Distinguished Public Service and the 2020 Duke Alumni Association Distinguished Undergraduate Teaching Award. He was the long-time Co-Director and now Senior Advisor of the Bridging the Gap project promoting greater policy relevance among academics. He is the author of *The Peacemakers: Leadership Lessons from 20th Century Statesmanship* (W.W. Norton, 2018).

[BOOK ONLINE HERE](#)

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Webinar: Free for all AIIA members. Student Non-Members \$5. Non-Members \$10

Why the War in Ukraine Is a Post-Colonial One

Professor William Partlett, Melbourne Law School

Thursday 13 October 2022: 5.30pm for 6pm-7pm AEDT. Dyason House, 124 Jolimont Road, East Melbourne, VIC 3002

When the Soviet Union collapsed 30 years ago, it was more than just the end of the Cold War. It also represented a significant setback to centuries of Russian empire-building. The collapse of communism, it was thought, signalled the unchallenged rise of its ideological competitor – democracy. And there is no question that democracy spread to some parts of the former Soviet Union. The war in Ukraine can be understood from this perspective – as an authoritarian Russia invading a democratic Ukraine.



But there is another way to understand the war in Ukraine. In 1992, Russia became a post-imperial power struggling to define itself without its empire while the newly independent former republics (like Ukraine) needed to forge a new identity.

Seen through this post-colonial lens, Russia's invasion is a desperate attempt to preserve its imperial identity as leader of the 'Russian world.' On the other side, Ukraine's resistance is an assertion of its independent post-colonial identity and desire to break from Russia.

This post-colonial context is critical to understanding the origins and future of Russia's war on Ukraine. In his latest book *The Post-Soviet as Post-Colonial* (Edward Elgar Publishing, 2022), Will Partlett describes the collapse of the Soviet Union as a moment of decolonisation and the ongoing impact of post-coloniality on the constitutional politics of the region.

What is the relationship between post-colonial constitutional politics and ongoing struggles for national identity in places like Ukraine and Russia? What do the post-colonial dimensions of the war say about the fundamental causes of the war? How does this post-coloniality challenge key dimensions of realist theories of international relations? And why will the war in Ukraine be so hard to end?



William Partlett is an Associate Professor at Melbourne Law School. He has travelled extensively in Russia and the former Soviet Union. His written work on the region includes publications in both academic journals as well as *The Conversation* and *The National Interest*. His insights draw on both his training in Russian politics, language, and history at Oxford University and Princeton University as well as his legal training at Stanford Law School. His latest book is *The Post-Soviet as Post-Colonial* (Edward Elgar Publishing, 2022). *For a 35% discount, please use the code 'PART35' at checkout.*

[BOOK ONLINE HERE](#)

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Webinar: Free for all AIIA members. Student Non-Members \$5. Non-Members \$10.

Bargaining with the Taliban: Women, Peace and Security in Afghanistan

Dr Jacqui True FASSA FAIIA in conversation with Dr Farkhondeh Akbari

Thursday 27 October 2022: 5.30pm for 6pm-7pm AEDT. Dyason House, 124 Jolimont Road, East Melbourne, VIC 3002

The Taliban's takeover of Afghanistan on 15 August 2021 undid the significant achievements of the Women, Peace and Security (WPS) agenda in Afghanistan and reinstituted gender apartheid.

Since 2001, there have been concerted efforts, at least institutionally, to promote women's participation in the parliament, in government and the security sector, and to protect women and girls from gender-based violence and other violations of their human rights.



Credit: Ehimetalor Akhere Unuabona/Unsplash

As a conflicted society, Afghanistan had a long way to achieve its gender equality goals sustainably and meaningfully.

The irresponsible withdrawal of western forces not only destabilised these achievements, but revealed the lack of commitment to protecting women's rights as the Taliban were ceasing power militarily. On 15 August 2022, UN Women issued a Gender Alert saying that one year on from the Taliban take-over in Afghanistan, women "are systematically excluded from public and political life, and restricted in their access to education, humanitarian assistance, employment, justice and health services".

What can the international community do to restore women's fundamental rights and freedoms? What is the scope for supporting Afghan women representatives to negotiate directly with the Taliban, and for including Afghan women as equal partners to inform advocacy and policy priorities? What can Australia do to promote an inclusive peace settlement in Afghanistan?

AIIA Victoria invites you to join Dr Jacqui True and Dr Farkhondeh Akbari to discuss the challenges for the women, peace and security agenda in Afghanistan.

(Speaker bios overleaf)

[BOOK ONLINE HERE](#)

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Webinar: Free for all AIIA members. Student Non-Members \$5. Non-Members \$10.



Dr Jacqui True FASSA FAIIA is Professor of International Relations and Director of Monash University's Centre for Gender, Peace and Security. She is also a Global Fellow, Peace Research Institute (PRIO), Oslo and received her PhD from York University, Canada, and an honorary doctorate from Lund University, Sweden in 2018. Her research is focused on the Women, Peace and Security agenda, violence against women, and the gender dimensions of foreign policy and international relations. Her book, *The Political Economy of Violence Against Women* (Oxford, 2012) won the American Political Science Association's 2012 biennial prize for the best book in human rights, among other prizes. Recently she published *Violence against Women: What Everyone Needs to Know* (Oxford, 2020). and with Sara E. Davies *The Oxford Handbook of Women, Peace and Security* (2019). In 2021 Jacqui True was recognised as a Fellow of the AIIA for her excellence in scholarship on international relations and gender, peace, and security.



Dr Farkhondeh Akbari is a postdoctoral research fellow at Gender, Peace and Security Centre at Monash University. Her research focuses on diplomatic actors, peace settlement negotiations with non-state armed groups and women, peace and security in Afghanistan. Farkhondeh completed her PhD in diplomatic studies at the Coral Bell School of Asia Pacific Affairs at the Australian National University. Her thesis examined the required characteristics for non-state armed actors to engage meaningfully in diplomacy for the purpose of peace settlements, and looked at the cases of the Taliban in Afghanistan and the Khmer Rouge in Cambodia. Farkhondeh has work experience at the United Nations Headquarters in New York, the Afghanistan Independent Human Rights Commission and Afghanistan's Independent Directorate of Local Governance in Kabul. Farkhondeh is also an activist, using her research to advocate for human rights – especially the rights of women and girls, and vulnerable ethnic groups in Afghanistan.

[**BOOK ONLINE HERE**](#)

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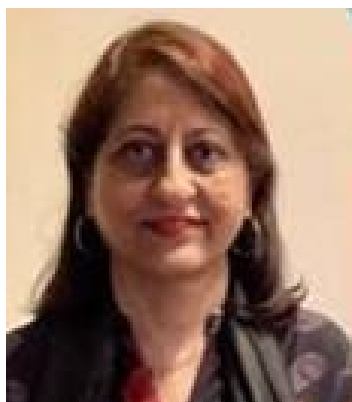
Women, Trade & Australia-India Economic Relations

Professor Nisha Taneja, Economist

Tuesday 8 November 2022: 10am-11am - Dyason House, 124 Jolimont Road, East Melbourne 3002

The Australia-India Chamber of Commerce (AICC) and the Australian Institute of International Affairs (AIIA) Victoria invite you to attend a roundtable discussion with Professor Nisha Taneja on **Women, Trade & Australia-India Economic Relations** as part of an Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT) Special Visit Program.

The focus of this meeting is to share insights on how Indian business and industries are doing in Australia, including women-led businesses, and the Australia-India economic relationship and its potential.



Dr. Nisha Taneja is one of India's leading economists and an influential voice on trade and gender. Based at India's leading economic thinktank, the Indian Council for Research on International Economic Relations (ICRIER), Dr. Taneja is a prolific contributor to research on India's international economic policy and has guided reforms in trade, trade facilitation, and logistics. She has been a member of the World Economic Forum's Global Future Council on Trade and Investment since 2020, previously worked as an International Consultant with the World Bank and Asian Development Bank, and was also a Lead International Consultant for the UN's Food and Agriculture Organisation.

Nisha has worked extensively with the Government of India, and has substantial experience working on regional trade in South Asia and East Asia concerning informal trade, tariffs, sensitive lists, services, investment, non-tariff measures, and trade and transport facilitation. Current projects include a recent initiative supported by the Indian Government and UPS on trade and gender, a program on trade, investment, and connectivity in the BIMSTEC region, as well as a program on India Pakistan Trade (Trade for Peace).

ICRIER received funding from the Australia's DFAT in 2017 through the South Asia Regional Trade Facilitation program (SARTFP) to undertake research on trade facilitation measures which enhance participation of women in cross-border trade. Dr. Taneja herself participated in a workshop organised by DFAT to explore opportunities and challenges for women in trade, and also met with former Prime Minister Tony Abbott to discuss ECTA negotiations with India in 2021. Nisha's insights will be important as Australia engages in dialogue with India regarding novel issues related to our Comprehensive Economic Cooperation Agreement (CECA), including gender.

[RSVP here](#) by Wednesday 2 November 5pm

The Islamic Republic of Iran: Is this the End?

Professor Shahram Akbarzadeh, Middle East Studies Forum (MESF), Deakin University

Tuesday 8 November: 6pm-7pm AEDT **WEBINAR**

While the world watches in disbelief, the Iranian government has turned its guns on its own citizens. Despite more than 200 people having been killed by the hands of security agencies, public protests and strikes continue to challenge the legitimacy of the ruling regime.

The protests were ignited by the killing of a young Kurdish woman, Mahsa Amini, for not covering her hair fully with hijab, but have grown to seek the end of 'dictatorship'. The Islamic Republic of Iran is facing a threat to its very existence from within, which makes it extremely hard to counter.



In the absence of an organised opposition leadership, it is not clear what could replace the current model of government. At the same time, pressure from below has opened up fissures at the top. While the top echelon is keen to preserve the image of unity, cracks have appeared within Islamic seminaries - the very ideological base of the regime. What does the future hold?

Co-hosting with the [Middle East Studies Forum](#) (MESF) at Deakin University, AIIA Victoria invites you to join Professor Shahram Akbarzadeh as he discusses the ongoing protests in Iran and their implications for the future of the country.



Shahram Akbarzadeh is Convenor of the MESF and Research Professor in Middle East and Central Asian Politics at the Alfred Deakin Institute for Citizenship and Globalisation, Deakin University. He held a prestigious ARC Future Fellowship (2013-2016) on the Role of Islam in Iran's Foreign Policy-making and recently completed a Qatar Foundation grant on Sectarianism in the Middle East. Prof. Akbarzadeh has an extensive publication record and has contributed to public debate on topics such as democracy and political processes in the Middle East, regional rivalry and Islamic militancy. The second edition of his book, [Middle East Politics and International Relations: Crisis Zone](#) (Routledge, 2022) is now available.

[BOOK ONLINE HERE](#)

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Webinar: Free for all AIIA and MESF members. Student Non-Members \$5. Non-Members \$10.

How the 20th Communist Party Congress has set up China and the Region for a Future Planned by Xi Jinping

Rowan Callick OBE FAIIA

Wednesday 9 November 2022: 5.30pm for 6pm-7pm AEDT. Dyason House, 124 Jolimont Road, East Melbourne, 3002

The 20th National Congress of the Chinese Communist Party has just finished in Beijing, setting the path for China – and, the party intends, for Australia's region and the wider world – for the next decade and beyond. Through the congress, general secretary Xi Jinping has swept the board in his control of the country's top leaders – all male – and of its ideology.

Xi chose to title his five-yearly work report to his party, pithily: *"Hold High the Great Banner of Socialism with Chinese Characteristics and Strive in Unity to Build a Modern Socialist Country in All Respects."*



The congress formalised the appointment of a new team to lead China under Xi, whom it granted a further five years at the helm. The manner in which Xi loyalists were promoted regardless of age, while those associated formerly with other party factions were discarded, raises questions about the extent to which Xi is purely surrounding himself with yes-men.

And the failure to promote to the Politburo Standing Committee – the seven men at the peak of the party – anyone below 60 and thus potentially young enough to succeed Xi, underlines the growing concern about the lack of any succession plan. This means that Xi is almost certain to be granted a further five years in office at the next, 21st, congress, so he will remain unchallengeable until at least 2032.

China expert Rowan Callick OBE, an AIIA Fellow, briefed the AIIA's recent annual conference in Canberra on immediate takeouts from the congress, and will develop and extend that analysis at this event in Melbourne. You are invited to join Rowan to take a very close look at Xi's recent work report.



Rowan Callick OBE FAIIA is an Industry Fellow at Griffith University's Asia Institute. He was Beijing-based China Correspondent of *The Australian* for two terms, following 20 years with *The Australian Financial Review* including as China Correspondent based in Hong Kong. He was also Asia-Pacific Editor for both newspapers. He has won a Graham Perkin Award for Australian Journalist of the Year and two Walkley Awards. He has written three books published in both English and Chinese - *Comrades & Capitalists: Hong Kong Since the Handover* (UNSW Press, 1998); *Channar: A landmark venture in iron ore* (Hardie Grant, 2012); and *Party Time: Who Runs China and How* (Black Inc., 2013), published internationally by Palgrave Macmillan as *The Party Forever: Inside China's Modern Communist Elite*. Rowan is a member of the Advisory Boards of the National Foundation for Australia China Relations, La Trobe University's Asia Institute and China Studies Department, and the University of Technology Sydney's Australia China Relations Institute.

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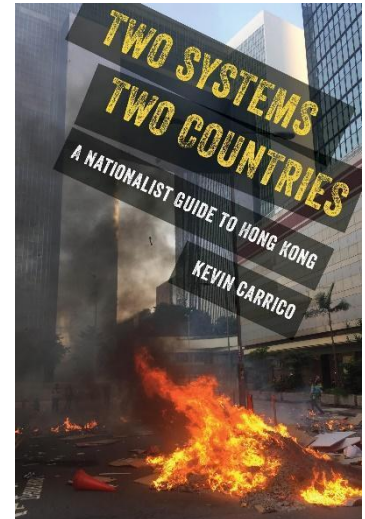
Can Hong Kong Ever Be Allowed To Be Itself?

Dr. Kevin Carrico, Monash University in conversation with
Dr. Louisa Lim, University of Melbourne

Wednesday 16 November 2022: 5.30pm for 6pm-7pm AEDT. Dyason House, 124 Jolimont Road, East Melbourne, 3002

Hong Kong has been the crucible of many hopes – of becoming Asia's leading international city; of maintaining uniquely, openness, personal freedoms and the rule of law within the People's Republic of China; of attracting China to change subtly, of providing a credible "one country, two systems" model that Taiwanese people would wish to follow.

Now, and especially since the introduction by Beijing of the all-encompassing National Security Law in mid-2020, all those hopes are dashed, and discourse is severely curtailed – with silence, exile or prison the grim alternatives facing the city's independently-spirited folk, although ideas of liberty and autonomy still live on within Hong Kong's myriad nooks and crannies.



In a new book [*Two Systems, Two Countries: A Nationalist Guide to Hong Kong*](#) (University of California Press, 2022), Monash University Senior Lecturer in Chinese Studies Kevin Carrico traces the origins of Hong Kong nationalism, and notes that ever fewer Hong Kong citizens now identify as "Chinese." Seeking to understand this contradiction through years of research and conversations in Hong Kong, he traces the origins of HK nationalism, its diverse schools and proposals for the city's future, and its implications for relations with Beijing.

Kevin Carrico will launch his book in conversation with Louisa Lim, Senior Lecturer at Melbourne University's Centre for Advancing Journalism.

Lim, who co-hosts the award-winning *Little Red Podcast*, grew up in Hong Kong. Her own book, [*Indelible City: Dispossession and Defiance in Hong Kong*](#) (Penguin Random House, 2022), interweaves personal narrative with that of the city's two colonisers, Britain and China, and injects the insightful story of famed street calligrapher the 'King of Kowloon.' Her previous book, [*The People's Republic of Amnesia: Tiananmen Revisited*](#) (Oxford University Press, 2014), explored the lives of people affected by the protests of 1989 in China.

AIIA Victoria invites you to an engaging discussion on a timely topic, to be introduced by Rowan Callick OBE FAIIA.

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Dr. Kevin Carrico is a Senior Lecturer in Chinese Studies at Monash University in Melbourne and currently an Australian Research Council DECRA Research Fellow. Kevin's research focus includes ethnic relations, nationalism, and political culture in China, Tibet, and Hong Kong. His research has been funded by the United States' Department of Education, the Australian Research Council, and the Chiang Ching-kuo Foundation for International Scholarly Exchange. Apart from his new book, Dr. Carrico is the author of *The Great Han: Race, Nationalism, and Tradition in China Today* (University of California Press, 2017). He also translated Tsering Woeser's *Tibet on Fire: Self-Immolations against Chinese Rule* (Verso Press, 2016) and *Guan Jun's Silencing Chinese Media: The Southern Weekly Protests and the Fate of Civil Society in China* (Rowman & Littlefield, 2020).

Kevin previously worked as a columnist at Hong Kong's *Apple Daily* newspaper, which was closed in June of 2021 amidst a crack-down on press freedom, and his works have been featured in *Foreign Policy*, *the Age*, *Hong Kong Free Press*, *Taipei Times*, *Voice of Tibet*, *China Brief*, and *Anthropology News*.



Dr. Louisa Lim is a Senior Lecturer in Audio-Visual Journalism at Melbourne University's Centre for Advancing Journalism. Lim's recent scholarly work includes research on communication and media studies and journalism studies, much of which concerning China. She has made contributions to a series of reports commissioned by the International Federation of Journalists which investigate China's influence on world media, and provided insight to the Environment and Communications References Committee Inquiry into Media Diversity in Australia. Apart from Lim's own books, of which her 2014 work was shortlisted for the Orwell Prize and Helen Bernstein Book Award for Excellence in Journalism, she has contributed chapters to books such as *Jane Golley, Linda Jaivin, Ben Hillman and Sharon Strange's China Dreams* (ANU Press, 2020), and *Tina Burrett and Jeffrey Kingston's Press Freedom in Contemporary Asia* (Taylor & Francis Ltd, 2019). Louisa was previously a correspondent on China and Hong Kong for the BBC and NPR, and has also written for the *New York Times* and the *Guardian*.



Rowan Callick OBE FAIIA is an Industry Fellow at Griffith University's Asia Institute. He was Beijing-based China Correspondent of *The Australian* for two terms, following 20 years with *The Australian Financial Review* including as China Correspondent based in Hong Kong. He was also Asia-Pacific Editor for both newspapers. He has won a Graham Perkin Award for Australian Journalist of the Year and two Walkley Awards. He has written three books published in both English and Chinese - *Comrades & Capitalists: Hong Kong Since the Handover* (UNSW Press, 1998); *Channar: A landmark venture in iron ore* (Hardie Grant, 2012); and *Party Time: Who Runs China and How* (Black Inc., 2013). He is a member of the Advisory Boards of the National Foundation for Australia China Relations, La Trobe

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Australian Institute of International Affairs Victoria

*University's Asia Institute and China Studies Department, and the University of Technology Sydney's
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Website: www.internationalaffairs.org.au/victoria

Meet the Ambassador – Germany

HE Dr Markus Ederer, Ambassador of the Federal Republic of Germany
in conversation with John Richardson

Monday 28 November: **10:30 am for 11am – 12 pm** AEDT at Dyason House, 124 Jolimont Road, East Melbourne

Germany is facing unprecedented challenges leading it to reevaluate established policies on security and energy. It has been an important driver of the EU response to Russia's invasion of Ukraine, agreeing to change its long-standing policy not to supply armaments to active combatant states, announcing significant reinvestment in its own military, and shelving the Nord Stream II pipeline that was to add to the infrastructure for natural gas delivery from Russia.



Likewise, Germany is having to refocus beyond its role as a key pillar of the European Union and a proponent of climate change action to broader international security interests and the Indo-Pacific where relations are being enhanced, following policy guidelines published in 2020 and recently updated. For the first time Germany will also produce a National Security Strategy and a China Strategy both to be forthcoming in the months ahead.

70 years since the establishment of diplomatic relations between Australia and Germany, both countries are continuously upgrading their bilateral relationship, following the signing of an Enhanced Strategic Relationship agreement in June 2021. An ever closer partnership in the field of clean energy and expanding defence cooperation are part of that agenda, the latter exemplified by a German frigate visit to Fremantle in September 2021 and German air force participation in Pitch Black exercises in the Northern Territory earlier this year.

The new German Chancellor, Olaf Scholz, referred to this shift in foreign and security policy as 'Zeitenwende'—a change in the spirit of the times. But what are the implications of this change for Germany, for the EU and NATO, and the Indo-Pacific?

In this next instalment of our *Meet the Ambassador* series, AIIA Victoria invites you to join HE Dr Markus Ederer in conversation with former ambassador and current Vice-President of AIIA Victoria, Mr John Richardson.



HE Dr Markus Ederer is a career diplomat and has served at German embassies in Canada (1990) and Russia (1990-1993) and as Ambassador of the European Union to China & Mongolia (2011-2014) and most recently to the Russian Federation (2017-2022). He has held numerous assignments in the German diplomatic service, including Head of Cabinet, Special Coordinator of the Stability Pact for South Eastern Europe (1999-2002), Director-General, Head of Policy Planning (2005-2010) and State Secretary (2014-2017) at the Federal Foreign Office in Berlin. He holds qualifications from University of Passau and University of Miami and is fluent in English, German, Russian and French. He has an array of experience in the fields of international security, economic policy, and public diplomacy.

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Young Professionals End of Year Trivia Night

Celebrate the end of 2022 with a fun trivia night full of food and prizes

Monday 5 December 2022 6:00pm - 8:00pm
Jac's Lounge, Melbourne Central Lion Hotel
211 La Trobe Street, Melbourne, VIC 3000, Australia



Join AIIA Victoria for an end of year celebration Trivia Night!

Test your general knowledge in a relaxed setting with friends, food and beverages.
Team and individual prizes will be on offer throughout the evening.

All are Welcome!

This event is the perfect way to conclude the year with friends, while celebrating the achievements of AIIA Victoria in 2022.

Entry to this event is FREE for all AIIA VIC Young Professional Members.
Non-member tickets are available for \$10 per person.

Dress code: Casual

Full bar services and snack available.

Come along and make some memories with new or old friends before we welcome in the New Year.

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Meet the Ambassador – Ukraine

HE Mr Vasyl Myroshnychenko, Ambassador of Ukraine to Australia
in conversation with John Richardson

Friday 9 December: 12.30pm for 1pm – 2pm AEDT at Dyason House, 124 Jolimont Road, East Melbourne

Impressing the international community with the defence of its sovereignty and territorial integrity, Ukraine now faces its greatest challenge yet against Russia's aggression as winter arrives. Over half of the country's energy infrastructure is degraded, and the imminent humanitarian crisis will only further test unity in the EU and NATO.

Maintaining close diplomatic ties since its independence from the Soviet Union in 1991, Australia has earned the reputation as one of Ukraine's more significant non-NATO allies. This relationship has only strengthened in response to Russia's invasion, which has seen Australia commit over \$650 million in military and humanitarian support, including the deployment of ADF personnel to train Ukrainian forces, the supply of 90 armoured Bushmaster troop carriers, the provision of 70,000 tonnes of thermal coal to support Ukraine's energy security, and the approval of 9,500 fast-tracked visa applications.

Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy recently announced in the aftermath of liberating Kherson that it was the "beginning of the end" of the war. But as winter sets in and Russia engages in scorched earth policy, what will be the cost in resources and lives to achieve this end? What are the viable routes to peace? What does reconstruction look like and how can Australia play a role?

In this next instalment of our *Meet the Ambassador* series, you are invited to join HE Mr Vasyl Myroshnychenko in conversation with Vice-President AIIA Victoria and former Australian ambassador John Richardson.



HE Mr Vasyl Myroshnychenko has served as the Ambassador of Ukraine to Australia since April 2022. He briefly served as an advisor to the Minister of Defence of Ukraine (March-April 2022) and was a Supervisory Board Member of the Ukrainian Institute, a cultural diplomacy organisation under the Ukrainian Ministry of Foreign Affairs (May 2021- July 2022). Prior to this, he has had an experienced career in international communications consultancy & the NGO space as an active business and civil society leader in Ukraine. He cofounded the "Ukraine Crisis Media Centre" (2014 -2019), a non-government media centre to boost international coverage of Ukraine, counteract the Kremlin disinformation and hybrid warfare threats and improve the capabilities of Ukraine's Government communications. He is a former Chevening Scholar and holds qualifications from various institutions including, Kyiv National Taras Shevchenko University (1998-2003), The London School of Economics and Political Science (2005-2006), Swedish Institute Management Program (2009) and American University, Institute of Advocacy and Public Affairs (2014).

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Webinar: Free for all AIIA members. Student Non-Members \$5. Non-Members \$10

The Russo-Ukraine War: an Analysis of Developments

Richard Iron CMG OBE

Tuesday 13 December: 5.30pm for 6-7pm at Dyason House, 124 Jolimont Road, East Melbourne

Please note that this event will be held under the Chatham House Rule and is in-person only.

It has now been nine months since Russia's 24 February invasion of Ukraine. Although the actual fighting remains largely confined to the Ukraine theatre of operations (apart from the blowing up of the Nord Stream pipeline and accidental missile landings in Poland), the war continues to have global impact.

Richard Iron's last talk on the Russo-Ukraine War was on 30 August. Many things have changed in the three months since; many others haven't.



In this update, he will discuss impacts on the war of recent military, economic, and diplomatic events; how each side still believes it can achieve military victory; the continuing importance of international support for Ukraine; and how each side's internal politics affects the conduct of the war. He will also examine the possibility of the use of nuclear weapons in the war and their potential impact.

No one can predict how this war will end, but Richard Iron will explore the factors that might influence how it does end, whenever that might be.



Richard Iron CMG OBE is President of AIIA Victoria. He previously served in the British Army in Northern Ireland, the Falkland Islands, Oman, the Balkans, Sierra Leone and Iraq. He was a visiting fellow at the Changing Character of War programme at the University of Oxford and was lead editor of British Generals in Blair's Wars. He is currently working on how wars end.

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Australia and the Origins of the Five Eyes

Dr David Schaefer

Tuesday 24 January 2023: 5.30pm for 6-7pm at Dyason House, 124 Jolimont Road, East Melbourne

The Five Eyes intelligence sharing network that emerged out of World War II and includes the United States, the United Kingdom, Canada and New Zealand is the world's most exclusive club.

How did Australia come to be involved, and what was the price of admission?

After decades of silence, the agency responsible for Australia's Five Eyes contribution has begun to finally reveal its secrets.



Join us for an in-person conversation with Dr David Schaefer, a postdoctoral fellow in the Department of War Studies at King's College London, who was formerly associated with the official history of the Australian Signals Directorate.

Drawing on recently declassified archival records, David will give an overview of Australia's troubled entry into the world of signals intelligence, and the early Cold War events which continue to shape Australia's intelligence effort today.

Please note that this event is in-person only and will not be live-streamed or recorded.



Dr David Schaefer is a postdoctoral fellow at King's College London and coordinator of the King's Intelligence and Security Group. He was previously a Junior Research Fellow at Ormond College in the University of Melbourne, and a Research Associate at Asialink Diplomacy. His most recent publication, with the late Michael Herman, is [Intelligence Power in Practice](#) (Edinburgh University Press, 2022).

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Governance, Ideology and Technology in the Xi Jinping Era

Tuesday 31 January 2023

9:00am for 9:30am-11:30am AEDT & 1:30pm for 2:00pm-4:00pm AEDT

Yasuko Hiraoka Myer Room (Level 1, Room 106), Sidney Myer Asia Centre, Swanston Street, Carlton
Hybrid mode – online participation is available

Extraordinary changes have disrupted the status quo of Chinese Communist Party governance over the last decade. The Party calls this a new era of “China-style governance”, claiming that both traditional and socialist ideas about law and morality underpin the Party’s new political and legal thinking. At the same time, new technologies of surveillance and big data development have been incorporated into the Party’s governance strategy. How are ideology and technology shaping changes in governance under Xi Jinping? This question will be addressed by a panel of Chinese law and governance experts, chaired by Richard Iron CMG OBE, President of AIIA Victoria.

MORNING SESSION SPEAKERS (9:30-11:30AM AEDT)

How is Ideology Shaping Changes in Governance under Xi Jinping?

Sue Trevaskes – Professor of Chinese Studies, *Griffith University*

Topic: Building a “Safe and Peaceful” China: Social Governance under Xi Jinping

Sarah Biddulph – Professor of Law, *The University of Melbourne*

Topic: “The Fengqiao Experience”: Using the Mass Line in Xi’s China

Delia Lin – Associate Professor of Chinese Studies, *The University of Melbourne*

Topic: Ideological Security and Moral Governance

Straton Papagiannas – PhD Candidate, *Leiden University*

Topic: Smart Governance in China’s Political-Legal System

AFTERNOON SESSION SPEAKERS (2:00-4:00PM AEDT)

How is Technology Shaping Changes in Governance under Xi Jinping?

Adam Knight – PhD Candidate, *Leiden University*

Topic: The Social Credit System

Rogier Creemers – Assistant Professor of Modern Chinese Studies, *Leiden University*

Topic: The Great Rectification: A New Paradigm for China’s Online Platform Economy

Ausma Bernot – Postdoctoral Fellow: *Charles Sturt University*

Topic: Surveillance Technologies

This workshop is funded by the Australian Research Council, the Griffith Centre for Social and Cultural Research, University of Melbourne’s Centre for Contemporary Chinese Studies and co-hosted with the Australian Institute of International Affairs (AIIA) Victoria.

Attendance is **free** but pre-registration is **essential**. Please [book online here](#).

BIOs of the Speakers



Ausma Bernot is a postdoctoral researcher at the School of Policing and Security, Charles Sturt University. She has six years of work experience with forensic science and research organisations across the globe, in particular China, where she had the chance to gain insights on how technologies are governed at provincial and national levels. She has recently submitted a PhD on surveillance in China.



Sarah Biddulph is Professor of Law at the University of Melbourne. She is Director of the Asian Law Centre in Melbourne Law School (MLS). Sarah is also Assistant Deputy Vice Chancellor - International (China). Sarah's research focuses on the Chinese legal system with an emphasis on legal policy, law making and enforcement as they affect the administration of justice in China. Sarah's particular areas of research are contemporary Chinese administrative law, criminal procedure, labour, comparative law and the law regulating social and economic rights.



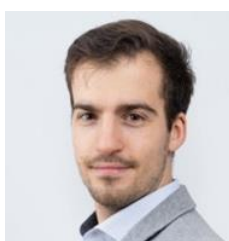
Rogier Creemers is an Assistant Professor in Modern Chinese Studies. With a background in Sinology and International Relations, and a PhD in Law, his research focuses on Chinese domestic digital technology policy, as well as China's growing importance in global digital affairs. He is the principal investigator of the NWO Vidi Project "The Smart State: Big Data, Artificial Intelligence and the Law in China". For the Leiden Asia Centre, he directs a project on China and global cybersecurity, funded by the Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs. He is also a co-founder of DigiChina, a joint initiative with Stanford University and New America.



Adam Knight is a PhD candidate at Leiden University where he focuses on how China's social credit system is conceptualised, negotiated and implemented. Prior to this, Adam studied Chinese at the University of Oxford, where he also received a Masters degree in Social Science of the Internet. His insights on China's approach to tech-enabled governance have featured in *The Economist*, BBC, Times of London, Al Jazeera and *The Financial Times*.



Delia Lin is Associate Professor of Chinese Studies at the University of Melbourne. She is a Deputy Director of the Centre for Contemporary Chinese Studies in Asia Institute. Delia's research centres on discourse, ideology and social governance in a changing China. Her current Chiang Ching-Kuo Foundation project (with Sue Trevaskes) focuses on ideology and education in Xi Jinping's China. She is a Chief Investigator in two ARC projects, one on China's governance revolution and the other on the nexus between elite and public opinions.



Straton Papagiannenas is a PhD candidate in Chinese Studies at the Leiden University Institute for Area Studies (LIAS). He researches in the area of digitisation and automation of justice in China and its implications for issues such as fairness, judicial autonomy, and decision-making.



Sue Trevaskes (FAHA) is Professor of Chinese Studies at Griffith University in Queensland. Her research includes the first books in English on criminal courts contemporary China, policing serious crime in China and death penalty reform in China. She has published papers on Chinese law, governance and justice in a number of journals including *The China Journal*, *The British Journal of Criminology*, *The China Quarterly*, and *Modern China*. Her current ARC project (with Delia Lin) is on China's governance revolution.



**Australian Institute
of International Affairs**
Victoria

Change and Continuity in US Foreign Policy

Prof. Walter Russell Mead

Tuesday 7 February: 5.30pm for 6pm – 7pm at Dyason House, 124 Jolimont Road, East Melbourne

Just over a year ago, the leaders of Australia, the United Kingdom, and the United States announced an enhanced trilateral security partnership named AUKUS, reinforcing decades of close partnership.

The intervening 12-month period has seen multiple challenges in the Indo-Pacific rim along with a devastating conflict between Russia and Ukraine.



How have these challenges affected the AUKUS relationship, and what are the potential effects on the already delicate balance of relations between partners in the region?

Drawing on his breadth of knowledge of foreign policy from the US to the Indo Pacific, to China and the Middle East, Ravenel B. Curry III distinguished fellow in strategy and statesmanship at the Hudson Institute, and the James Clarke Chace professor of foreign affairs and humanities at Bard College, Walter Russell Mead will provide an outline for the future, incorporating his own assessment of the achievements of the Biden Administration.

AIIA Victoria, co-hosting with [AIJAC](#), welcomes Professor Walter Russell Mead to Melbourne and invites you to join us to hear his insights and perspectives.



Walter Russell Mead is the Ravenel B. Curry III distinguished fellow in strategy and statesmanship at the Hudson Institute, the James Clarke Chace professor of foreign affairs and humanities at Bard College, and the "Global View" columnist at the Wall Street Journal. From 1997 to 2010, Mr. Mead was a fellow at the Council on Foreign Relations, serving as the Henry A. Kissinger senior fellow for US foreign policy from 2003 until his departure. His most recent book, [The Arc of A Covenant: The United States, Israel, and the Fate of the Jewish People](#) (Alfred A. Knopf, 2022), is a bold history of the US-Israel relationship that examines the origins of American support for Israel and the relationship's impact on past, present and future US policy. Mr. Mead discusses, among other things, the forgotten history of left-wing support for Zionism, the foundation of the state of Israel, the myth of the "Israel lobby" and the rise of the Sunbelt coalition in US politics.

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What does ASEAN mean to Australia?

HE Mr Will Nankervis, Australian Ambassador to ASEAN

Wednesday 8 February 2023: 5.30pm for 6-7pm at Dyason House, 124 Jolimont Road, East Melbourne

Please note that this event will be held under the Chatham House Rule and is in-person only.

ASEAN's ten member states cover a strategically significant region for Australia's Indo-Pacific priorities. With its unmatched convening power, each year ASEAN brings together intrinsically diverse states from across the Indo-Pacific to discuss political, security and economic challenges facing the region. ASEAN-led regional architecture is essential in maintaining order, security and prosperity during an increasingly turbulent time for our region.



Australia became ASEAN's first Dialogue Partner in 1974. Since then, our partnership has gone from strength to strength, including regular leader-level engagement, a comprehensive free trade agreement, and culminating in the announcement of the ASEAN-Australia Comprehensive Strategic Partnership (CSP) at the first annual ASEAN-Australia Summit in October 2021.

Under the CSP, the 'Australia for ASEAN Initiatives' represent the largest-ever increase in Australia's development cooperation with ASEAN. These important initiatives will enable us to address shared challenges, including health security and pandemic recovery, combatting transnational crime and terrorism, supporting our region's future skills needs as our economies evolve, ensuring energy security, protecting oceans and building circular economies.

With all the right tools in place, and our shared priorities agreed, what are the next steps in implementing the Comprehensive Strategic Partnership? What further role can Australia play in Southeast Asia's trade, economic and security agenda?

AIIA Victoria invites you to join Ambassador Nankervis to discuss Australia's diplomatic relations with ASEAN.



HE Mr Will Nankervis has been Ambassador of the Australian Mission to the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) in Jakarta since 2020. Previously, he was Assistant Secretary of the Indo-Pacific Strategy and Regional Maritime Branch in the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT), where his responsibilities included implementation of Australia's Indo-Pacific Strategy as well as regional maritime security issues. Mr Nankervis was a member of the Taskforce that developed Australia's 2017 Foreign Policy White Paper. Prior to that he headed the DFAT Iraq and Syria Taskforce. He was Political Counsellor in Australia's Permanent Mission to the United Nations in New York during Australia's term on the UN Security Council (2013-14). A career DFAT officer, Mr Nankervis has also undertaken postings and short-term missions in Sri Lanka and Solomon Islands.

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Rishi Sunak, British Politics and the Fate of 'Global Britain'

Dr Ben Wellings, Monash University

Thursday 23 February 2023: 5.30pm for 6pm-7pm AEDT. Dyason House, 124 Jolimont Road, East Melbourne, VIC 3002

Rishi Sunak is the fifth person to be Prime Minister since the Conservative Party came to power in 2010. He is also the first non-white person to hold that office, and follows the second and third female Prime Ministers who came to the office in a period of particular turbulence for the Conservatives, and hence for the United Kingdom itself.



This admirable record of diversity at the top – unmatched by the rival Labour Party – is as much a product of this turbulence as it is the politics of diversity and inclusion.

Sunak has inherited a party that behaves as if it is already in opposition, falling back on old ideas that appeal to a small group of party members and with shrinking support in the polls.

With an election no more than two years away, Sunak has reached the top job in British politics at what might be considered the endgame of the Brexit era. How does his elevation reflect the strains placed on the Conservative party by Brexit? What are the prospects of a Sunak government for strategic visions such as 'Global Britain'? And what might this mean for Australia?

AIIA Victoria welcomes back Dr Ben Wellings for his insights into both the domestic politics and international aspirations of the UK.



Dr Ben Wellings is Senior Lecturer in Politics and International Relations at Monash University in Melbourne and director of the Monash Politics, Philosophy and Economics (PPE) degree. His research interests include nationalism in the United Kingdom and the European Union, and the international politics of the Anglosphere. He is the author of *English Nationalism and Euroscepticism* (Peter Lang, 2021) and *English Nationalism, Brexit and the Anglosphere* (Manchester University Press, 2019).

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Ukraine Retrospective – One Year On

Stefan Romaniw OAM; Senator David Van; Petr Kuzmin; Richard Iron CMG OBE

Tuesday 28 February: 5.30pm for 6pm – 7pm AEDT

Dyason House, 124 Jolimont Road, East Melbourne

It is twelve months since Russia invaded Ukraine - not just an unwarranted attack on the borders of a sovereign nation in contravention of international law, but an egregious assault on the global rules-based international order.

One year on, AIIA VIC will review the key developments in Ukraine and Russia, as well as the shifts in the Western perspective on the war between these two countries.

How has Ukrainian society reacted to the existential threat to its country? Is Ukraine stronger now than a year ago? Are Western sanctions having sufficient effect on Russia's will to continue the invasion? Has Russian society accepted and embraced the war? How did Western countries, including Australia, view Ukraine's chances of success in defending its sovereignty at the start of the invasion and are they committed to helping Ukraine win the war now?

AIIA Victoria invites you to join this panel discussion with Stefan Romaniw, Senator David Van, Petr Kuzmin and Richard Iron who will provide answers to these and other questions from the Ukrainian, Russian, and Australian/Western perspectives.



Stefan Romaniw OAM is the First Vice President of the Ukrainian World Congress (UWC) and Co-Chair of the Australian Federation of Ukrainian Organisations (AFUO). He currently holds the position of Executive Director of Community Languages Australia. He has served terms as Chairperson of the Victorian Multicultural Commission under both Governments in Victoria. He has also served as Chairman of the Victorian Government's Australia Day Committee (Victoria).



Senator David Van is a Liberal Senator for Victoria, elected to the Senate in 2019. He is Deputy Chair of the Subcommittee on Foreign Affairs and Aid of the Joint Standing Committee on Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade as well as Deputy Chair of the Senate Standing Committee for the Scrutiny of Delegated Legislation. He is an active member of several committees including the Joint Standing Committee on Treaties and the Joint Standing Committee on the National Capital and External Territories. Senator Van's commitment to international relations is reflected in his membership of several Parliamentary Friendship groups, co-chairing Parliamentary Friendship Groups of Ukraine, Spain, Mexico, Thailand and the Pacific Islands. Having made a visit to Ukraine in 2022, he is believed to be the only western parliamentarian to have been to the Donbas region in the last year. He holds a Master of International Relations degree from Monash University and is undertaking a Master of Strategy and Security degree at UNSW at the

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Australian Institute of International Affairs Victoria

Australian Defence Force Academy (ADFA).



Petr Kuzmin is a Russian-Australian anti-war activist and one of the founders of a grassroots pro-democracy movement Svoboda Alliance AU&NZ that sprang up organically in Australia and New Zealand in the wake of protests that swept Russia in 2021 upon Alexei Navalny's return and arrest. This movement has adopted a strong anti-war stance and is conducting ongoing solidarity rallies to emphasise strong cultural and human links between the people of Ukraine and Russia.



Richard Iron CMG OBE is the President of AIIA Victoria. He served for 37 years in the British Army in a wide range of theatres and was a visiting fellow to the Changing Character of War Programme at the University of Oxford. He was the lead editor and contributor to British Generals in Blair's Wars.

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The Populism Trap: How the Rise of Mob Orators Shapes International Cooperation

Dr. Alexandra Homolar, University of Warwick

Thursday 2 March: 5.30pm for 6-7pm AEDT at Dyason House, 124 Jolimont Road, East Melbourne

The rise of nationalist populism in the US and elsewhere has emerged as a key challenge to the Western-centric liberal international order in the 21st century. A basic antagonism of the 'people' versus the 'elite' has become projected onto the international sphere to reject cooperative policies, ideologies, institutions, and organisations that are declared as both unjust and holding down the 'true' people.



Reinforcing a trend towards multipolarity, the professed foreign policy direction by former President Trump aimed to force a rupture to existing international and external arrangements and policies in the name of reclaiming national sovereignty and to re-establish American greatness.

While some perceive that the immediate threat posed by former President Trump and his MAGA movement to representative democracy in America has receded with their loss of electoral power over the last two years, populist mobilisation of anti-elitism and anti-globalism from the right has not.

To what extent has the rhetoric that helped elect the former TV celebrity in 2016 been reproduced by his opponents, including his successor to America's highest office, Joe Biden? And how do they continue to shape US foreign and domestic politics?

AIIA Victoria invites you to join Alexandra Homolar for her insights and to discuss her forthcoming book ***The Uncertainty Doctrine: Narrative Politics and US Hard Power after the Cold War*** (Cambridge University Press, 2023).



Dr Alexandra Homolar is Reader of International Security at the University of Warwick, United Kingdom. She is releasing a new book titled **The Uncertainty Doctrine: Narrative Politics and US Hard Power after the Cold War** (Cambridge University Press, 2023) and a volume co-edited with Brent J. Steele on **Ontological Insecurities and the Politics of Contemporary Populism** (Routledge, 2023). She currently holds a Leverhulme Research Fellowship for her project, Populist Fantasyland, and is also the lead of Speaking International Security at Warwick and co-lead of the Research in Global Governance Network.

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Young Professionals IWD Networking Night

Tuesday 7 March 2023 6:00pm - 8:30pm
Lane's Edge Wine Bar, 39 Bourke Street, Melbourne 3000



Celebrate International Women's Day by hearing career journeys from young professional women, and networking with like-minded peers.

All Welcome!

This event is the perfect way to meet new people, build contacts and learn about different career pathways. All attendees will receive personalised business cards to initiate conversations, ensuring everyone leaves with new connections.

Entry to this event is **FREE** for all AIIA VIC Young Professional Members.
Non-member tickets are available for \$10 per person.

Voucher for first drink free provided on arrival.

Dress code: Neat Casual

Beverages and bar snacks available at bar prices on the evening.

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Meet the Ambassador – Uruguay

HE Mrs Dianela Pi, Ambassador of the Oriental Republic of Uruguay
in conversation with John Richardson

Wednesday 15 March: 5pm for 5.30-6.30pm AEDT at Dyason House, 124 Jolimont Road, East Melbourne

At the January 1 inauguration of Brazil's President Luiz Inácio Lula da Silva, not one but three presidents from Uruguay were in attendance: the current leader, Luis Lacalle Pou, as well as former presidents José "Pepe" Mujica and Julio María Sanguinetti, historic rivals in Uruguayan politics, one from the left, one from the centre-right. At a time of polarisation and social unrest throughout Latin America, this show of unity highlighted Uruguay's stability.



The country has Latin America's highest per-capita income, its lowest poverty rate, and among its lowest levels of inequality. Uruguay's energy matrix is the region's greenest – it is a world leader in renewable energies - and its economy is forecast to grow a healthy 3.6% in 2023, more than double the Latin American average. International studies frequently portray Uruguay as the region's least corrupt country; the Economist Intelligence Unit ranked it the 13th strongest democracy in the world, ahead of the United Kingdom, Spain, and the United States, and well ahead of regional peers like Brazil, Colombia or Mexico.

Trade is the lifeblood of Uruguay's economy. Positioned between South America's two largest countries, Montevideo has relied on an outward-facing strategy to compensate for its small internal market, first through the Common Market of the South (MERCOSUR), which includes Argentina, Brazil and Paraguay, and looking to the future, applying for membership in the Comprehensive and Progressive Agreement for Trans-Pacific Partnership (CPTPP).

2023 represents 75 years of diplomatic relations between Uruguay and Australia. What opportunities are there for further trade in areas such infrastructure, ag-tech and fin-tech? What can be done to enhance cooperation in energy transition, such as green hydrogen? How can people-to-people links be rebuilt post-covid?

In this next instalment of our *Meet the Ambassador* series, AIIA Victoria invites you to join Ambassador Pi to discuss the bilateral relationship and future opportunities.



HE Mrs Dianela Pi is a career diplomat with extensive experience in regional trade, and human rights, and has served as Uruguay's Ambassador to Australia since 2020. She formerly served as the Deputy Sub-General Director for Political Affairs and Director for Human Rights and International Humanitarian Law, having previously been Deputy Permanent Representative of the Uruguayan Mission to the United Nations in Geneva. Earlier roles were with the Uruguayan Mission to the UN in New York, where she was Facilitator and Coordinator of the Un Resolution of the Rights of the Child on behalf of GRULAC and the EU, and as Second Secretary, General Direction for Integration and MERCOSUR Affairs.

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The State of Russian Opposition in 2023

Panel Discussion: Dr. Robert Horvath, Assoc. Prof. William Partlett, Petr Kuzmin

Tuesday 21 March: 5.30pm for 6pm – 7pm AEDT

Dyason House, 124 Jolimont Road, East Melbourne

The invasion of Ukraine saw an outbreak of protests in Russia and raised hopes that the Russian people might be able to stop the war. Those hopes have to date not been fulfilled. Instead, leading opposition leaders have been imprisoned or exiled.

With legitimate political opposition to Putin's rule effectively outlawed, does internal resistance to Putin's regime still matter? Who can be considered Putin's political opposition? What is the current and potential role of the leading political figures in the anti-war resistance movement?



In answering these questions, the panel will consider three main points:

1. Resistance to the Putin regime and its propaganda apparatus under the current conditions.
2. The opposition's potential role in the event of a political crisis within Putin's regime.
3. The opposition's possible contribution to the restoration of democratic institutions in the aftermath of a collapse of the Putin regime.

This discussion will set the context for [**A Conversation with Alexey Navalny's Chief-of-Staff, Leonid Volkov**](#) which will take place at AIIA Victoria on Tuesday 28 March 2023.



Dr Robert Horvath is a specialist on Russian Politics at La Trobe University. His most recent book is [**Putin's Fascists: Russkii Obraz and the Politics of Managed Nationalism in Russia**](#) (Routledge, 2021). It examines the relationship between the Putin regime and Russkii Obraz, a neo-Nazi organization that became a major force on Russia's radical nationalist scene in 2008-10. It shows how Russkii Obraz's rise was boosted by the regime's policy of 'managed nationalism,' which mobilised radical nationalist proxies against opponents of authoritarianism. His current research preoccupations include the Putin regime's manipulation of Russian nationalism, its assault on international human rights institutions, and its intervention in Africa.



Associate Professor William Partlett is an Associate Professor at Melbourne Law School. He has travelled extensively in Russia and the former Soviet Union. His written work on the region includes publications in both academic journals as well as *The Conversation* and *The National Interest*. His insights draw on both his training in Russian politics, language, and history at Oxford University and Princeton University as well as his legal training at Stanford Law School. His latest book is [**The Post-Soviet as Post-Colonial**](#) (Edward Elgar Publishing, 2022).



Petr Kuzmin is a Russian Australian anti-war activist and a vocal critic of Putin's regime within the Russian-speaking community of Australia. He was one of the founders of Svoboda Alliance, a pro-democracy community organisation focused on promoting universal human rights and political freedoms in Russia and within the Russian diaspora of Australia. He is a long-time supporter of Alexei Navalny and his Anti-Corruption Foundation.

[**BOOK ONLINE HERE**](#)

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Webinar: Free for all AIIA members. Student Non-Members \$5. Non-Members \$10



Australian Institute
of International Affairs
Victoria

15th Sir Zelman Cowen Oration and Dinner

Thursday 23 March 2023 6:30pm-10pm - Grand Ballroom, The Hotel Windsor, 111 Spring Street, Melbourne 3000

AIIA Victoria warmly invites you to a convivial evening at The Hotel Windsor. Meet old and new friends, mingle with diplomats and members of the international community in Melbourne, and continue the tradition of acknowledging the contribution of Sir Zelman Cowen AK GCMG GCVO QC.

Former Governor-General and legal expert Sir Zelman Cowen dedicated his life to engaging the Australian public in international affairs. To honour this commitment, and his role as Patron of the Institute, AIIA Victoria's annual Sir Zelman Cowen Oration features an eminent speaker discussing a current issue that affects how Australia engages with the world.

AIIA Victoria is delighted to announce that the 15th Sir Zelman Cowen Oration will be delivered by:

The Honourable Mark Weinberg AO KC

Special Investigator – Office of the Special Investigator

The Impact of Domestic and International Law on Australian Forces Overseas

Predinner drinks commence in the Grand Ballroom from **6:30pm**
followed by a **3-course dinner 7:15pm-10pm**



The Honourable Mark Weinberg AO KC was admitted to practice in New South Wales in 1974, and in Victoria in 1975. In 1975 he joined the academic staff of the University of Melbourne, where he held various positions in the Faculty of Law, culminating in Dean of the Faculty from 1984 to 1985. He was Commonwealth Director of Public Prosecutions from 1988 to 1991. Mark Weinberg was appointed to the Court of Appeal, Supreme Court of Victoria in July 2008. His Honour was a judge of the Federal Court of Australia from 1998 to 2008 and previously held a series of additional judicial and other appointments. In 2017, he was appointed an Officer of the Order of Australia for distinguished service to the judiciary and to the law, particularly through reforms to criminal law and procedure, to legal education in Victoria and to the administration of justice in Fiji and Norfolk Island. In October 2017 he was awarded the degree of LLD (Honoris Causa) by Monash University. On 9 May 2018, he retired from the Court of Appeal of the Supreme Court of Victoria after 10 years of service. He continued to hear cases as a reserve Judge. Following the release of the Brereton Report, in December 2020, he was appointed by the then Home Affairs Minister Peter Dutton as the Special Investigator to investigate alleged war crimes by Australian soldiers in Afghanistan.

AIIA VIC Members & Guests: \$150 Earlybird (until 31 Jan 2023); \$160 (from 1 Feb 23)

Non-members: \$175 Earlybird (until 31 Jan 2023); \$185 (from 1 Feb 23)

Tables of 10 available; please book online or contact AIIA VIC on admin.vic@internationalaffairs.org.au

Business attire | Please book [online here](#) or call (03) 9654 7271 by **16 March 2023**

AIIA Victoria gratefully acknowledges the [Walter Mangold Trust Fund](#) for their support of our young members.
Registered Office Dyason House, 124 Jolimont Road East Melbourne VIC 3002 | Telephone (03) 9654 7271



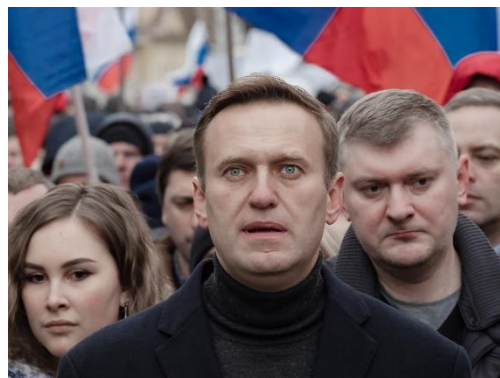
Australian Institute
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Victoria

A Conversation with Leonid Volkov, Alexey Navalny's Chief-of-Staff

With Assoc. Prof. William Partlett, Melbourne Law School

Tuesday 28 March: 5pm for 5.30pm – 6.30pm AEDT Dyason House, 124 Jolimont Road, East Melbourne

As the war in Ukraine continues, Vladimir Putin's most prominent political opponent, Alexey Navalny, remains in jail. Despite his imprisonment, Navalny's political movement continues in exile. AIIA Victoria is pleased to host an in-person conversation with one of the key figures in this movement: Leonid Volkov, Alexey Navalny's chief of staff and political director.



Volkov has been a critical player in building Alexey Navalny's political movement, serving as campaign manager for Navalny's mayoral campaign in Moscow in 2013 and his bid to get onto the presidential ballot in 2018. Between 2017 and 2021, Volkov created and led Team Navalny's network of regional offices in 45 Russia's largest cities. He continues this work outside of Russia, mainly in Lithuania.

In conversation with Associate Professor William Partlett, Volkov will discuss questions that are now of central importance to the whole world: What impact is the war having on Russian politics and society? Do the Russian people really support Putin's aggression? Why do we not see large-scale protests? More broadly, he will also discuss the short-term and long-term future of Russia. How is the Navalny movement continuing to work in dismantling the Putin regime? Does the war make political change more or less likely? And how can a robust, democratic, and peaceful Russia be built in a post-Putin Russia?



Leonid Volkov is chief of staff for Alexey Navalny and political director of Navalny's team, and Chairman of the Anti-Corruption Foundation. He was campaign manager for Navalny's mayoral campaign in Moscow in 2013, as well as for his bid to get onto the presidential ballot in 2018. Between 2017 and 2021 Leonid Volkov has created and led Team Navalny's network of regional offices in 45 Russia's largest cities. Currently operating from Lithuania, Leonid oversees the Anti-Corruption Foundation's international and domestic political projects.



Associate Professor William Partlett is an Associate Professor at Melbourne Law School. He has travelled extensively in Russia and the former Soviet Union. His written work on the region includes publications in both academic journals as well as *The Conversation* and *The National Interest*. His insights draw on both his training in Russian politics, language, and history at Oxford University and Princeton University as well as his legal training at Stanford Law School. His latest book is [**The Post-Soviet as Post-Colonial**](#) (Edward Elgar Publishing, 2022).

[**BOOK ONLINE HERE**](#)

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How Wars End – Book Launch

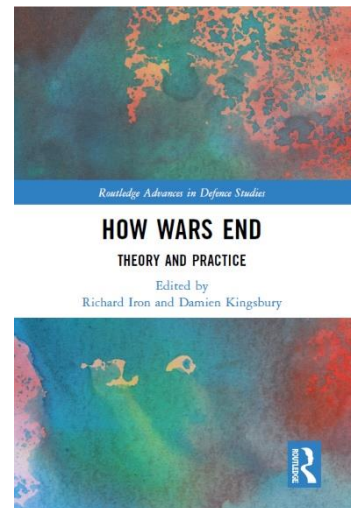
Professor Damien Kingsbury & Richard Iron CMG OBE

Thursday 20 April: 5.30pm for 6pm – 7pm AEST at Dyason House, 124 Jolimont Road, East Melbourne

As the Ukraine War continues well into its second year with no end yet in sight, the topic of how wars end continues to be one of the most important issues in global affairs.

Drawing on a very wide range of expert testimonies and practical examples, Damien Kingsbury and Richard Iron will explore how and why wars end. Using their own experiences and viewpoints – one as a professional negotiator, the other a professional soldier – they will explore how understanding why wars start is fundamental to understanding how they might end and, once started, understanding what prolongs them is critical to how to end them.

How Wars End: Theory And Practice (Routledge, 2023) draws on the direct experience of both soldiers and academics who in each case have also been advisers on fighting and ending wars. Unlike more theoretical works, the book draws on first-hand experiences, including wars in Iraq, Afghanistan, Sierra Leone, Indonesia and many others.



To discuss these issues and more, AIIA Victoria invites you to join co-editors Damien Kingsbury and Richard Iron as they launch the book. Copies will be available for sale and for signing.



Professor Damien Kingsbury holds a Personal Chair and is Professor of International Politics at Deakin University. He has coordinated several international election observer missions, and has been adviser to several separatist organisations, helping broker peace agreements in three cases. He is the author or editor of more than two dozen books on regional political and security issues.



Richard Iron CMG OBE is the President of AIIA Victoria. He served for 37 years in the British Army in a wide range of theatres and was a visiting fellow to the Changing Character of War Programme at the University of Oxford. He was the lead editor and contributor to British Generals in Blair's Wars.

BOOK ONLINE HERE

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Australian Institute
of International Affairs
Victoria

Young Professionals Networking Night

Thursday 27 April 2023 6pm–9pm
The Black Rabbit, 85 Queen St, Melbourne, VIC 3000



AIIA VIC warmly welcomes you to our second in-person Young Professionals Networking Night of 2023.

This event is the perfect way to meet new people, build contacts, and learn about different career pathways. We will be joined by successful young professionals who will share their experience and advice on networking for an international career.

All attendees will receive personalised business cards to initiate conversations, ensuring everyone leaves with new connections.

Entry to this event is FREE for all AIIA VIC Young Professional Members.
Non-member tickets are available for \$15 per person.

Ticket includes voucher for first free drink with canapés provided.
Beverages and bar snacks available at bar prices on the evening.

Dress code: neat casual



[BOOK ONLINE HERE](#)

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Australian Institute of International Affairs *Victoria*



Sam Bissett

Sam is an Investment Advisor at Austrade, where he supports productive foreign direct investment into Australia in the health and renewable energy sectors. He landed this role after completing the 2022 Austrade Graduate Program and studying a Bachelor of Global Studies and Diploma of Languages at Monash University. He is also the CEO of the Australia Latam Emerging Leaders Dialogue, a youth-led organisation that seeks to strengthen ties between Australia and Latin America.



Jerry Nguyen

Jerry is in her final year of a Bachelor of Global Studies (specialising in International Relations) and a Diploma of French at Monash University. Jerry is currently serving as the elected President of Monash International Affairs Society (MIAS). Previously, she was instrumental in the management of national youth consultations for the Global Compact for Migration Asia-Pacific Regional Review as the Asia-Pacific Regional Director for the Migration Youth and Children Platform (MYCP).



Dr. William Stoltz

Dr. William A. Stoltz is a Lecturer and Expert Associate at the Australian National University's National Security College and a Senior Manager at Cyber CX, Australia's leading cyber security firm. He has previously worked across Australia's defence, intelligence, and law enforcement communities. Stoltz is currently a Visiting Fellow at the Robert Menzies Institute at the University of Melbourne and an Associate Member of the Centre for the Study of Subversion, Unconventional Interventions and Terrorism (SUIT) at the University of Nottingham.



BOOK ONLINE HERE

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In-person: AIIA VIC Young Professionals Members Free; Non-members \$15.

A Strategic Analysis of the Russo-Ukraine War

Richard Iron CMG OBE

Tuesday 2 May: 5.30pm for 6-7pm AEST Dyason House, 124 Jolimont Road, East Melbourne

The Russo-Ukraine War is the bloodiest, most extensive and most dangerous war of our time. It has now been fourteen months since Russia's invasion of Ukraine and five months since Richard Iron's last strategic analysis of the war.

There is absolutely no certainty of how this war will evolve over the coming months nor how, eventually, it might end.



Richard Iron will explore the military, political and economic factors that could influence developments both on the ground and in the political arena. He will examine what each side wants to achieve and the likelihood of them achieving it. He will look particularly at the state of Russian internal politics, assess the true level of support in Russia for the war and the possibility of regime collapse.

Can either side achieve their military goals? How important is Western support for Ukraine and can Ukraine rely on it? How secure is the Putin regime and what may follow it? If his regime does collapse, what might that look like?



Richard Iron CMG OBE is President of AIIA Victoria. He previously served in the British Army in Northern Ireland, the Falkland Islands, Oman, the Balkans, Sierra Leone and Iraq. He was a visiting fellow at the Changing Character of War programme at the University of Oxford and was lead editor of British Generals in Blair's Wars. He is currently working on how wars end.

BOOK ONLINE HERE

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Website: www.internationalaffairs.org.au/victoria

Peacebuilding and Feminist Foreign Policy: Can Australia Rebuild Relations with the Solomon Islands?

Dr Federica Caso, La Trobe University

Thursday 11 May: 5 pm for 5.30 pm – 6.30 pm AEST Dyason House, 124 Jolimont Road, East Melbourne

2023 marks the 20th anniversary of the arrival of the Regional Assistance Mission to Solomon Islands (RAMSI), begging reflection on its success and the inclusion of Solomon Islander women's voices.



In [*Peacebuilding and Feminist Foreign Policy: Can Australia Rebuild Relations with the Solomon Islands?*](#) Dr Federica Caso examines the added value of a Feminist Foreign Policy approach to peacebuilding in the Pacific by looking at the case of the Solomon Islands. She outlines the critical role that Solomon Islands women have in local peacebuilding efforts and discusses Australia's current commitments to advancing gender equality in the Solomon Islands.

What are the implications and the ethical considerations of a Feminist Foreign Policy approach to peacebuilding? What can Australia do to align its foreign policy with normative feminist commitments that can improve the relationship with the Solomon Islands and promote Pacific regional peace and security?

AIIA Victoria invites you to join Dr Federica Caso, as she discusses her recent article, published by the International Women's Development Agency, which explores feminist foreign policy and peacebuilding, drawing from a case study of Australia's relationship with the Solomon Islands since RAMSI.



Dr Federica Caso is a lecturer in International Relations at La Trobe University. Previously she was a sessional lecturer in Peace and Conflict Studies at the University of Queensland. She has received qualifications from London Metropolitan University, Newcastle University and The University of Leeds, receiving her PhD from The University of Queensland. Her research focuses on settler colonial structures and power, gender and racial diversity and inclusion in the military and peacebuilding, and visual representations of conflict and post-conflict. Her book *Settler Military Politics: Militarisation and the Aesthetics of War Commemoration* will be published next year by Edinburgh University Press.

[BOOK ONLINE HERE](#)

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War and Sexual Violence

Prof. Jacqui True FASSA FAIIA, Prof. Sara Davies FASSA
and Joana Osei-Tutu, moderated by Richard Iron CMG OBE

Tuesday 16 May: 5pm for 5.30pm–6.30pm AEST | Dyason House, 124 Jolimont Road, East Melbourne

Following the adoption of the United Nations (UN) Security Council Resolution 1325 on Women, Peace and Security (WPS) in 2000, sexual violence is no longer seen as an inevitable collateral damage or by-product of war. In fact, evidence is mounting that in many conflicts sexual violence is instrumentalised as tactic of war and repression to terrorise populations.



Women and girls continue to be those primarily affected by conflict-related sexual violence globally. According to the 13th Report of the United Nations Secretary-General on Sexual Violence in Conflict, women and girls account for more than 3,198 (97%) of the reported cases.

Why are so many wars characterised by sexual violence against women and girls? Is the elimination of violence against women in war possible?

AIIA Victoria invites you to a panel with Prof. Jacqui True, Prof. Sara Davies and Joana Osei-Tutu, moderated by Richard Iron, to discuss these questions.

(Speaker bios overleaf)

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Dr Jacqui True FASSA FAIIA ([@JacquiTrue](#)) is Director of the Australian Research Council Centre of Excellence for the Elimination of Violence against Women (CEVAW) and Professor of International Relations at Monash University. She is a Global Fellow at the Peace Research Institute, Oslo, and Editor of the *European Journal of International Security*.



Dr Sara Davies FASSA ([@ProfSaraEDavies](#)) Deputy Director (Indo-Pacific Research) of the Australian Research Council Centre of Excellence for the Elimination of Violence Against Women (CEVAW) and Professor of International Relations at the Griffith Asia Institute, Griffith University. She is an Adjunct Professor at the Australian Centre for Health Law Research, Queensland University of Technology and Monash University.



Joana Osei-Tutu ([@joana_oseitutu](#)) is a PhD student at Monash University. She is also the Head of the Women Peace and Security Institute at the Kofi Annan International Peacekeeping Training Center (KAIPTC) in Accra, Ghana.



Richard Iron CMG OBE is President of AIIA Victoria. He previously served in the British Army in Northern Ireland, the Falkland Islands, Oman, the Balkans, Sierra Leone and Iraq. He was a visiting fellow at the Changing Character of War programme at the University of Oxford and the lead editor of "British Generals in Blair's Wars".

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Australian Institute
of International Affairs
Victoria

Young Professionals New Colombo Plan Information Evening

Thursday 18 May 2023: 5pm for 5:30pm–7:00pm AEST
Dyason House, 124 Jolimont Road, East Melbourne VIC 3002 | Webinar

NEW COLOMBO PLAN (NCP) 2024 ROUND



AIIA Victoria invites you to join this informative panel discussion on the New Colombo Plan (NCP) Scholarship and Mobility Grant application processes.

As nominations for the 2024 round of the NCP Scholarship Program are expected to open in June 2023, the panel will provide undergraduate students with first-hand insights into these opportunities, what they entail, and what to expect upon completion.

Grace Corcoran (*Panel Moderator*)

NCP Fellow to the Federated States of Micronesia (2018); NCP Alumni Ambassador (2020 & 2023)



Grace is the Diplomacy Project Coordinator at Asialink and was recently listed as a 'Young Women to Watch in International Affairs' for 2023. In her role at Asialink, Grace works to strengthen Australia's relationships across Asia by developing strong and sustainable networks of leaders, government officials, academics and experts that can discuss solutions to regional issues. Grace holds a Master of Development Studies from the University of Melbourne, is the Project Manager of the Australia-Vietnam Leadership Dialogue, and was a New Colombo Plan Fellow in 2018. As reflected by her trajectory, Grace is passionate about building and fortifying Australia's relationships in the Indo-Pacific.



[BOOK ONLINE HERE](#)

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In-person: AIIA VIC Young Professionals Members Free; Non-members \$15. **Webinar:** Non-members \$5.



Australian Institute of International Affairs Victoria

Jenny Chen

NCP Scholar to China (2022)



Jenny is a 2022 New Colombo Plan Scholar for China and a Law Graduate at King & Wood Mallesons. As part of her NCP Program, she interned at the KWM Singapore office and completed her final semester of her Bachelor of Laws/Commerce degrees from Monash University on exchange in Taiwan due to travel restrictions to China. Before her travels, she worked as a paralegal at finance and investment firm Wingate, and enjoyed teaching piano and performing in community musical theatre.

Gavin Choong

NCP Scholar to Hong Kong (2023)



Gavin is currently completing his Bachelor of Laws (Honours) and Biomedical Science at Monash University. He is a youth activist with a wide range of experience in First Nations justice, climate and human rights, as well as refugee aid. As a 2023 NCP scholar, Gavin will be heading to Hong Kong to study comparative constitutional law and international human rights law, before travelling to the Pacific to work in the climate justice and Indigenous rights field.

Luka Filips

NCP Mobility Grant Recipient to Indonesia (2022); NCP Deputy Alumni Ambassador (Monash University) (2022-Present)



Luka is currently studying a Master of Laws (LLM) at King's College London, where he is the General LLM Pathway Assistant at the Dickson Poon School of Law and a member of the Climate Action Network. Previously, he studied a Bachelor of Laws (Honours) and Bachelor of Commerce (Marketing Science) at Monash University, where he assumed various student leadership positions as a Law Ambassador, Access Monash Mentor, and Peer Mentor. During his studies, Luka has volunteered as a paralegal at the Windrush Justice Clinic, Open Justice Project Student Panel, and Anti-Death Penalty Clinic.



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Australian Institute of International Affairs Victoria

Emily-Rose Guarnuccio

NCP Scholar to China (2016); NCP Alumni Ambassador (2018-Present)



Emily is a former Policy Adviser at the Department of Premier and Cabinet (Victoria) within the Economic Development and International Branch. She has also undertaken roles with the Department of Education and Training, and the Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning. Additionally, Emily has leant her expertise with LIC Media Group China as a Production Manager, and was the Australia-China Youth Association's Education Director for Beijing.

Sedef Ozen

NCP Scholar to the Republic of Korea (2023)



Sedef is a penultimate year student studying a Bachelor of Psychology (Honours) degree at Victoria University and has obtained an Undergraduate Certificate of Mental Health from Monash University (2021). As the former Chairperson for the Students as Partners initiative at VU, she has assisted in creating a collaborative environment where students and staff can work together for the betterment of the student experience. She now works as a LEAD Program Facilitator, delivering leadership workshops, as well as providing administrative support to college teams at RMIT University. Sedef is also the recipient of the Raj Kannan Leadership Scholarship and the Ignite Scholarship.

James Toogood

NCP Scholar to India (2023)



James is currently studying a Bachelor of Commerce and a Bachelor of Finance at Monash University. He has worked as Project Consultant and Team Leader at 180 Degrees Consulting Monash, a student-led volunteer consultancy that lends expertise in sustainable solution-building and corporate social impact. In 2018, he studied at the Tata Institute of Social Sciences in Mumbai, India. James takes particular interest in the globalisation of commerce, and in how organisations are addressing the opportunities and challenges posed by emerging markets and new technologies.



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In-person: AIA VIC Young Professionals Members Free; Non-members \$15. **Webinar:** Non-members \$5.

Meet the Ambassador – Spain

HE Ms Alicia Moral Revilla, Ambassador of Spain in conversation with John Richardson

Tuesday 6 June: **5 pm for 5.30 pm – 6.30 pm AEST** at Dyason House, 124 Jolimont Road, East Melbourne

Spain is the fourth largest economy in the EU and second largest exporter of goods and services. It has a sophisticated manufacturing sector, including military hardware which it also exports to Australia. It has been a significant source of supply and support for Ukraine, taking more than 170,000 Ukrainian refugees since the Russian invasion



Spain's appointment of an Ambassador for the Indo-Pacific reflects the region's growing strategic importance to Spain and the wealth of opportunities for cooperation in the critical realms of economics and cyber security. The appointment follows the establishment of the EU Strategy for Cooperation in the Indo-Pacific in 2021, which characterised the region as the 'world's economic and strategic centre of gravity' and expressed the EU's commitment to deepen cooperation in ocean governance, health, research and technology, security and defence, and climate change.

Australia and Spain work closely in the multilateral arena, sharing the importance of the international rules-based order, free trade, human rights, gender equality and inclusive economic growth. In June 2022, Prime Minister Anthony Albanese undertook the first visit to Spain by an Australian Prime Minister. The meeting reaffirmed the importance of our strong investment and trade relationship, particularly in our infrastructure, renewable energy and transport sectors, and reaffirmed the conclusion of the EU-Australia Free Trade Agreement as a key priority.

Explore these and other dimensions of the relationship in the next instalment of our *Meet the Ambassador* series. AIIA Victoria invites you to join HE Ms Alicia Moral Revilla in conversation with former ambassador John Richardson.



HE Ms Alicia Moral Revilla is the Ambassador of Spain in Australia (since October 2020); she is also accredited to Papua New Guinea, Solomon Islands, Vanuatu, Tuvalu and Nauru. She has a Bachelor of Laws, a Master's degree in Defence Policy and International Security and has completed an Advanced Command and Staff Course with the Spanish Armed Forces; she joined the Spanish Diplomatic Service in 1991. She has held positions in diplomatic representations in Tanzania, Indonesia, Bulgaria, the Netherlands and Paris (OCDE), and has served as the Ambassador of Spain in Zimbabwe, also accredited to Zambia and Malawi. She has also held a range of positions in Madrid for the Ministry of External Affairs, European Union and Cooperation including Deputy Director-General of the Diplomatic School of Spain, Deputy Director-General of Foreign Policy and Security Policy, Ambassador for Cyber Security and President of the Admissions Board of the Spanish Diplomatic Service (2019-2020).

Please note that this event will be held under the **CHATHAM HOUSE RULE** and is in-person only.

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Australia's Security in China's Shadow

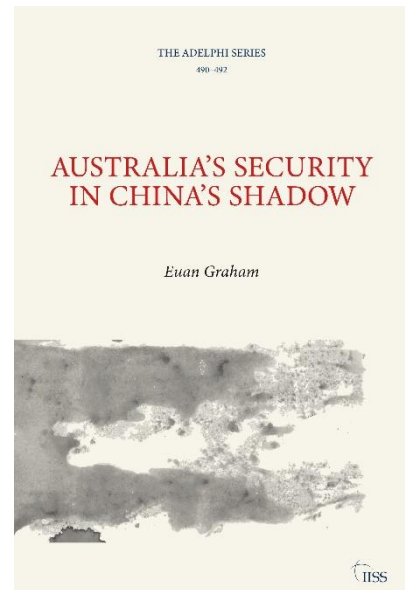
Dr Euan Graham, International Institute for Strategic Studies (IISS)

Thursday 25 May: 5.30pm for 6pm – 7pm AEST at Dyason House, 124 Jolimont Road, East Melbourne

A major shift in relations between Australia and China became clear in the early 2020s, with geopolitical concerns trumping economic considerations.

While there have been recent signs of improvement as the two countries seek to “stabilise” relations - minister-to-minister meetings have resumed; China has recently lifted restrictions on Australian coal imports and Australia hopes a 3-year-old tariff barrier on Australian barley will be lifted within months - China's more assertive regional posture has prompted far-reaching changes to Australia's defence and alliance-policy settings, including new capability acquisitions and strategic initiatives such as AUKUS.

In [*Australia's Security in China's Shadow*](#) (IISS *Adelphi* series, March 2023), Euan Graham explores how Australia is adapting to the various security challenges that China poses, combining political, military and economic analysis with an examination of Australian domestic resilience.



With Australia's newly published Defence Strategic Review identifying the return of major-power strategic competition to the Indo-Pacific as the 'major feature of our region and time', how is Canberra adapting to this new reality? What are the lessons for other countries facing similar challenges?

AIIA Victoria invites you to join Dr Euan Graham to discuss his new book. Access details though QR code alongside (20% discount available using the code **ADELPHI20**, valid until 8 June).



***Dr Euan Graham** is based in the Singapore office of the International Institute for Strategic Studies. He is responsible for furthering research within the IISS on defence and strategy in the Indo-Pacific, and also supports the IISS Shangri-La Dialogue and other activities run by IISS-Asia. He has expertise on Australia's strategic policy, maritime and naval issues in the Asia-Pacific region, the geopolitics of the Korean Peninsula and Japan.*

[BOOK ONLINE HERE](#)

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Turkey's Political Leaders: Authoritarian Tendencies in a Democratic State – *Book Launch*

Dr Tezcan Gümüş in Conversation with Dr David Tittensor, Melbourne University

Thursday 1 June: 5 pm for 5.30 pm – 6.30 pm AEST at Dyason House, 124 Jolimont Road, East Melbourne

In [*Turkey's Political Leaders: Authoritarian Tendencies in a Democratic State*](#) (Edinburgh University Press, April 2023) Dr Tezcan Gümüş examines the role of the political leaders in Turkey's democratic system. He argues that the leaders' values, beliefs and practices underwritten by authoritarianism have resulted in the tenuous existence of democracy, oscillating between simply enduring and failure during the periods they occupied the seats of political power.

With the Turkish election taking place on 14 May, what are the implications of the outcome? How will this reflect the way in which Turkish democracy is influenced as an institution? What lessons and insights can be learned from the role that political leaders play in the survival or failure of democracy?

AIIA Victoria invites you to join Dr Tezcan Gümüş in conversation with Dr David Tittensor, as he discusses his recently published book. Copies of the book will be available for purchase and signing at the event.



Dr Tezcan Gümüş' research interests lie in contemporary Turkish politics, politics of the Middle East and the role of elites in democratisation and democratic breakdowns. He has taught courses on politics and international relations at the University of Melbourne and the Australian Catholic University, presented his research at international conferences and authored extensive articles on Turkish politics. His PhD thesis, examining the role and culture of political elites in Turkey, was awarded the 2020 Australian Political Studies Association award. He holds a PhD from Deakin University along with a BA (Deakin University), BA Honours and a Master of International Relations

(University of Melbourne).



Dr David Tittensor is a Senior Lecturer in Islamic Studies in the Asia Institute at the University of Melbourne. He is author of 'The House of Service: The Gülen Movement and Islam's Third Way' (Oxford University Press, 2014) and co-author (with Adam Possamai) of 'Religion and Change in Australia' (Routledge, 2022). He has also co-edited (with Fethi Mansouri) 'The Politics of Women and Migration in the Global South' (Palgrave, 2017), and is a Series Editor for 'Muslims in Global Societies' (Springer). His research interests are transnational Muslim movements, Turkish politics and society, and religion and development with a focus on Islam.

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Webinar: Free for all AIIA members. Student Non-Members \$5. Non-Members \$10

Civil-Military Relations and Democratisation in Pakistan

Dr Zahid Shahab Ahmed, Deakin University

Thursday 15 June: 5 pm for 5.30 pm – 6.30 pm AEST at Dyason House, 124 Jolimont Road, East Melbourne

Pakistan has had a chequered history with democracy. Since 1947, the country has been under military authoritarian regimes for approximately thirty years, including the most recent led by General Pervez Musharaf from 1999 to 2008.

In 2013, Pakistan achieved a historic milestone when a democratically elected government completed a full five-year term for the first time. However, the military continues to wield influence even outside of military regimes.



The government of Imran Khan in Pakistan has faced criticism for maintaining strong ties with the armed forces. Once removed from power, Khan continues to blame the military for bringing down his government in April 2022. Decades of military rule in Pakistan have allowed the military to retain its influence in politics, resulting in the deterioration of political institutions and the erosion of democracy.

What dynamics are at play in Pakistan's civil-military relations? How do these impact the process of democratisation in Pakistan?

AIIA Victoria invites you to join Dr Zahid Shahab Ahmed, as he discusses the origins of the current political crisis in Pakistan and its implications for the future of Pakistani democracy.



Dr Zahid Shahab Ahmed is a Senior Research Fellow at Alfred Deakin Institute for Citizenship and Globalization, Deakin University, Australia. He is also a Non-Resident Research Fellow at Institute of South Asian Studies, National University of Singapore. During 2017-19, Dr Ahmed was a Non-Resident Research Fellow with the University of Southern California's Center on Public Diplomacy. During 2013-16, he was an Assistant Professor at Centre for International Peace and Stability, National University of Sciences and Technology in Pakistan. His work focuses on political developments and groups (e.g. democratization, authoritarianism and political Islam), foreign affairs, peace and security in South Asia and the Middle East. His publications have appeared in prominent journals, such as *Politics and Religion*, *Australian Journal of International Affairs*, *Asian Studies Review*, and *Territory, Politics, Governance*. He is the author of *Regionalism and Regional Security in South Asia: The Role of SAARC* (Routledge, 2013). Twitter: @DrZahidShahab

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AUKUS – Geopolitical Implications

Panel Discussion: Dr Euan Graham, Dr Sidharth Kaushal & Dr Maria Rost Rublee,
moderated by Helen Brown

Thursday 22 June: 5.30 pm for 6 – 7pm AEST Dyason House, 124 Jolimont Road, East Melbourne

Since the trilateral AUKUS security pact between Australia, the UK and the United States was announced on 15 September 2021, much attention has focused on the issue of the nuclear-powered submarines which Australia will eventually acquire (the so-called “Pillar 1”).

The submarine plan is just one part of the proposed deepening of security collaboration among the three countries. The agreement also covers ‘Pillar II’ which covers improved technological capacity and information sharing.



What will cooperation on hypersonic missiles, cyber operations, quantum computing and other technological innovation mean for security in the region? And does this mean the military hardware may turn out to be of secondary importance to the agreement’s role as a broader advanced technology accelerator?

Join us to discuss the foundational agreement and geopolitical implications, the risks, and advantages for each of the countries involved and the impact in the wider Indo-Pacific region.

Co-hosting with the [AUKUS Forum](#), AIIA Victoria invites you to this expert panel in the first of a series on AUKUS to discuss the geopolitical implications.

Panellist details overleaf...

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Dr Euan Graham until recently was based in the Singapore office of the International Institute for Strategic Studies (IISS). He was responsible for furthering research within the IISS on defence and strategy in the Indo-Pacific and supported the IISS Shangri-La Dialogue and other activities run by IISS–Asia. He has expertise on Australia’s strategic policy, maritime and naval issues in the Asia-Pacific region, the geopolitics of the Korean Peninsula and Japan. He is the author of [Australia’s Security in China’s Shadow](#) (IISS Adelphi series, March 2023).



Dr Sidharth Kaushal is Research Fellow, Sea Power at RUSI. His research at RUSI covers the impact of technology on maritime doctrine in the 21st century and the role of sea power in a state’s grand strategy. Sidharth holds a doctorate in International Relations from the London School of Economics, where his research examined the ways in which strategic culture shapes the contours of a nation’s grand strategy.



Maria Rost Rublee is an Associate Professor of International Relations at Monash University, with expertise in international security, including nuclear politics, maritime security and diversity in security studies. She is a non-resident fellow at the Royal Australian Navy Sea Power Centre and is also President of Women in International Security-Australia. Her work has been published in a variety of international journals and her book *Nonproliferation Norms: Why States Choose Nuclear Restraint* received the Alexander

George Book Award for best book in political psychology. Maria received her Ph.D. from George Washington University.



Helen Brown has more than 20 years’ experience in writing, speaking and analysing complex subjects and issues through several roles as a multimedia journalist, producer and communications specialist. Helen lived and worked in Indonesia for four years as a correspondent for the national broadcaster, ABC News, covering social, economic, political and strategic events. She is currently Lead, Communications and Outreach at the Australia-Indonesia Centre and manages her own consultancy, *Bisnis Asia*.

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UN Peacekeepers and Parallel Forces: Challenges and Opportunities

Dr Shannon Zimmerman, Deakin University | Australian War College

Wednesday 28 June: 5 pm for 5.30 pm – 6.30 pm AEST at Dyason House, 124 Jolimont Road, East Melbourne

The UN has long recognised the value of partnerships to reinforce the effectiveness of peace operations. Between 1978 and 2009, 60% of UN missions operated alongside parallel deployments from regional and subregional organisations, alliances, and coalitions. This percentage has only increased in recent years.

In an ideal world, parallel operations would be carefully integrated with UN peace operations, leveraging their comparative advantages.



Unfortunately, the conditions under which peacekeepers deploy and the volatile environments they operate in, are far from ideal. Instead, multiple actors are deployed ad hoc into conflicts, usually without formal structures for integrating or aligning their objectives. In some cases, these actors find ways to work together, becoming stronger and more effective through their cooperation. In other cases, poor communication, contradictory priorities, and conflicting political objectives result in peacekeepers and parallel operations actively undermining each other's efforts.

To understand the dynamics between parallel forces, Dr Shannon Zimmerman examines the two most recent UN Peace Operations, the UN multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in Mali (MINUSMA) and the UN Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in the Central African Republic (MINUSCA). Both missions deployed alongside parallel French Forces and European Union Training Missions. How can the interactions between the UN forces and the parallel French and EU forces be assessed? What synergies, and conversely what obstacles were identified? What are the recommendations for future parallel deployments?

AIIA Victoria welcomes back Dr Shannon Zimmerman to discuss her upcoming research on the dynamics between parallel forces in UN peace operations.



Dr Shannon Zimmerman is a Lecturer in Strategic Studies at Deakin University at the Australian War College. Previously, she was a postdoctoral research fellow at the RMIT University in Melbourne. Her research investigates peace and stability operations, specifically how peacekeepers protect civilians in conflict environments characterised by asymmetric threats. She also studies misogyny motivated terrorism, looking at the online groups in the 'Manosphere'. Shannon received her PhD from the University of Queensland in 2019 and her Masters in Conflict Resolution from Georgetown University in 2012.

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Young Professionals Mid-Year Networking – Cyber Security with Sen. James Paterson

Thursday 29 June 2023 6pm–9pm

The Aviary Melbourne, 271 Victoria Street, Abbotsford VIC 3067

AIIA VIC warmly welcomes you to our young professionals mid-year networking evening and a relaxed professional development session at the Aviary Melbourne.

Our guest speaker is Senator James Paterson. Senator Paterson will discuss the importance of personal cyber security and how to avoid use of popular social media platforms compromising your career in government and international affairs.



All attendees will receive personalised business cards to initiate conversations, ensuring everyone leaves with new connections.

Dress code: neat casual

Senator James Paterson



Senator Paterson is the Shadow Minister for Home Affairs and Cyber Security. He was previously Chair of the Parliamentary Joint Committee on Intelligence and Security. He currently chairs the Senate Select Committee on Foreign Interference Through Social Media and is the past chair of the Joint Committee on Corporations and Financial Services and the Senate Finance and Public Administration Committee.



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The organisers of this event respectfully acknowledge the Traditional Owners of the land on which this event is being held. Melbourne has always been a significant gathering place for the groups of the Kulin Nation, and we acknowledge and respect their continuing connection to land, sea and community

In-person: AIIA VIC Young Professionals Members \$10; Non-members \$15

