



Australian Institute of
International Affairs



Konrad
Adenauer
Stiftung

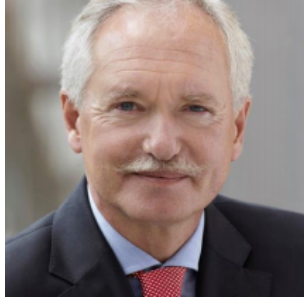
**Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung
Australian Institute of International Affairs
Roundtable**

AIIA VIC
Dyason House
Friday 12 February 2016
12.00 – 2.00 pm

Program and Attendees

Arrival and Lunch	12.00-12.30
Welcome	12.30-12.40
Zara Kimpton OAM, Acting National President, Australian Institute of International Affairs	
Introduction	12.40-12.50
Dr Gerhard Wahlers, Deputy Secretary General, Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung	
“Angela Merkel: Leadership in Turbulent Times”	12.50-13.10
Dr Klaus Schüler, Federal Director of the CDU	
Moderated Dialogue	13.10-13.50
Melissa Conley Tyler, National Executive Director, Australian Institute of International Affairs	
Vote of Thanks	13.50-14.00
Patrick Moore, President AIIA VIC	

Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung Delegation



Dr Klaus Schüler

Dr Schüler is the Federal Director of the CDU and in this role was responsible for Angela Merkel's successful re-election campaigns in 2009 and 2013. He is one of Germany's most experienced political managers, strategists and campaign experts with more than 25 years in the business. Dr Schüler is the chairman of the "Campaign Managers Committee" of the International Democrat Union (IDU), a working association of over 80 Christian Democrat and Conservative political parties from all over the world. He also holds a PhD in Modern History.



Dr Gerhard Wahlers

Dr Wahlers is the Deputy Secretary General of the Konrad-Adenauer Foundation. Previous positions include head of the KAS International Division in Berlin (2003-2007), head of the KAS office in the USA (1997-2003) and head of the KAS office in Israel (1994-1997). Dr Wahlers has been with KAS since 1990. He holds a PhD in philosophy from the Westfälische Wilhelms-Universität and is fluent in Spanish.



Frank Priess

Mr Priess is the Deputy Head of the Department of European and International Cooperation at the Konrad-Adenauer Foundation in Berlin. His previous positions include KAS Representative in Mexico (2006-2012), Head of the Political Communications Department (2003-2006), Head of the Asia Department (2002-2003), KAS Representative in Argentina (1995-2002) and Head of the Press and Public Relations Department/Press Spokesman. Mr Priess has been with KAS since 1987; prior to this he worked in journalism. He holds a master's degree in political science from Johannes-Gutenberg University where he studied Philosophy and Communications.



Dr Beatrice Gorawantschy

Dr Gorawantschy is the Director of the Regional Programme Political Dialogue Asia and the Pacific at the Konrad Adenauer Foundation in Singapore. Her previous positions include Director Team Asia and Pacific at KAS Headquarters in Berlin, Resident Representative of KAS India (2009-2012), Director of KAS in Paris (2005-2009), Resident Representative of KAS Thailand (2002-2005), Desk Officer for South Asia, Southeast Asia, Turkey and Iran (1998-2002) and Resident Representative of KAS Philippines (1995-1998). Dr Gorawantschy holds a doctorate in political science from Saarland University.



Anne Elisabeth Ludwigs

Anne Elisabeth Ludwigs is the personal assistant to the Federal Director of the CDU, Dr Klaus Schüler. Her previous positions include project manager at the German-Tunisian Chamber of Industry and Commerce (AHK) and personal assistant and head of office to the Director General of the Committee on Eastern European Economic Relations. She holds a bachelor's degree in European Economic Relations and a master's degree in European Public Affairs. She has also has work experience in the Palestinian Territories and Tunisia.

Australian Institute of International Affairs



Zara Kimpton OAM

Zara Kimpton is Acting President of the Australian Institute of International Affairs. She joined the Council of AIIA Victoria in 1997 and was President from 2003 to 2006. She was made a life member of AIIA VIC in 2007. In 2011 Ms Kimpton was awarded the Medal of the Order of Australia (OAM) for service to international relations through executive roles with AIIA VIC. Ms Kimpton is currently a partner in a rural enterprise in Northern Victoria and previously worked in the stockbroking, mining investment and banking industries. Apart from international affairs her main interests are travel, the arts, tennis, horse riding, hiking and speaking French.



Melissa Conley Tyler

Melissa Conley Tyler is the National Executive Director of the Australian Institute of International Affairs. She is a lawyer and specialist in conflict resolution, including negotiation, mediation and peace education. She was previously Program Manager of the International Conflict Resolution Centre at the University of Melbourne and Senior Fellow of Melbourne Law School. She has an international profile in conflict resolution including membership of the Editorial Board of the *Conflict Resolution Quarterly*. During ten years with the AIIA, she has edited more than 45 publications, organised more than 70 policy events, overseen dramatic growth in youth engagement and built stronger relations with other institutes of international affairs worldwide.



Patrick Moore

Patrick Moore is the President of AIIA Victoria. He previously worked in marketing and investment banking, including as Director of Corporate Advisory for Australasia at Elders Finance Group. Mr Moore also has extensive experience in the not-for-profit sector. He served on the Board of Anglicare Victoria, United World Colleges, the Geelong Grammar Council and the Geelong Grammar Foundation (as Chairman). He is currently involved with Cambridge Australia Scholarships both as a board member and as a benefactor and contributes the Patrick Moore Cambridge Australia Scholarship. Mr Moore holds a master's degree in economics and law from the University of Cambridge.



Cate Pickett

Cate Pickett is Vice President of the AIIA Victoria and member of the Programme Committee for 2016. She has been involved with the AIIA VIC for 3 years. Cate Pickett is committed to the mission of the AIIA VIC: promoting understanding of international affairs. As a Senior Project Manager who has worked in the UK, Dubai and NZ as well as in Australia, she has developed an excellent understanding of both the opportunities and the challenges of working in our globalised community.



Alastair Roff

Alastair Roff is a Council Member of AIIA Victoria where he has been involved for two years, and is chair of the Programme Committee. He graduated from the University of Edinburgh with a BA in German and French. After joining the shipping industry, he spent a varied and enjoyable 30-year international management career working in UK, Netherlands, Germany, Japan, Australia, Kuwait and Dubai. He emigrated to Australia in 2009, and since then has had a change of career focus, helping run a family-owned sheep farm in rural Victoria, and acting as non-executive director of two start-up companies. He is also a Member of the Australian Institute of Company Directors.



Toni Feddersen

Toni Feddersen is a Council Member of AIIA Victoria. Previous positions include Executive Director of the Australia China Business Council Victoria. From 1991 to 2000 she was a member of the Committee for Economic Development of Australia as Executive Director. From 2001 she was CEO for the Australian Davos Connection for the East Asia Economic Summit followed by the Commonwealth Business Council for CHOGM. She has a bachelor's degree from Monash University and a Diploma of Education from the University of Melbourne. She majored in linguistics and German Studies.



John Allen

John Allen is a Council Member of AIIA Victoria. He has more than 30 years experience in the strategic consulting and executive search business. Mr Allen began his career in consumer marketing in the UK and Europe, working for Beecham, then a large international advertising agency in London, followed by the German conglomerate Oetker, in France and Germany. He is the Chairman of the Advisory Board of the Australian Government Solicitor Advisory Board, a National Board Member of the Australian British Chamber of Commerce and a Board committee member of Save the Children Australia. He is a Fellow of both the Australian Institute of Company Directors and the Australian Institute of Management.



John M L Woods

John M L Woods is a Council Member of AIIA Victoria. Mr Woods has had a distinguished career spanning 42 years with the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade. He served as Australian Ambassador to Peru from September 2010 to September 2014, where he re-opened the Australian Embassy in Lima. He was accredited as non-resident Ambassador to Bolivia from 2012 to 2014. He was Ambassador to Venezuela 2000-2003 with non-resident accreditation to Colombia, Ecuador, the Dominican Republic and Haiti. He directed Australia's relations with Canada and Latin America in DFAT Canberra (2006-10). John is now consulting on Latin American issues and will lecture and coordinate the International Policy Making in Practice module of Melbourne University's Masters in International Relations program in 2016. John speaks Spanish. He was awarded the Australian Public Service Medal (PSM) in 1990.



Peta McDermott

Peta McDermott is currently the Executive Officer for the Australian Institute of International Affairs Victoria, a role she has held for the past seven years. Prior to this she held managerial positions in the wine industry, television production and hospitality. She ran her own English literacy program for overseas students in Melbourne, and has travelled extensively, working briefly in London and Italy in various roles.



Roman Madaus

Roman Madaus is an intern at the AIIA National Office and is the primary coordinator of this roundtable event. He holds a bachelor's degree in International Relations from Tufts University and is currently pursuing a master's degree in Strategic Studies at Australian National University. His primary research interest is East Asian geopolitics, particularly the South China Sea dispute. Mr Madaus speaks fluent German and Spanish and has lived and worked in Germany.

Australian Participants



Michael Pearce SC

Michael Pearce is the Honorary Consul-General for Germany in Melbourne. He is a practising barrister and was appointed Senior Counsel in 2005. He is currently a director of The Deloitte Foundation Ltd and a Vice President of Scholarships for Australian German Student Exchange Inc (SAGSE). Mr Pearce holds a master's degree in international law from the Australian National University.



Jackie Taranto

Jackie Taranto is the Vice Chair and a board member of the German-Australian Chamber of Industry and Commerce. Previous positions include managing director of Hannover Fairs Australia, an international trade fair organisation that she built and developed into the largest ICT (information and communications technology) trade fair within the Australasia region.



Prof Gabriele Suder

Prof. Suder is Director of International Relations at The University of Melbourne. She is also Principal Fellow at Melbourne Business School, and publishes research in the field of international business, free trade agreements and market integration, as well as terrorism studies. She has been Jean Monnet Chair for the European Union, has worked across the EU, Asia, and North America as full professor with leading business schools, and is expert at UNCTAD, EACEA, and JETRO-IDE.



Prof Bruce Wilson

Prof Bruce Wilson is Director of the European Union Centre at RMIT University. He provides insights to EU-Australian relations and academic studies on the European Union, encouraging mobility for staff and students, and builds partnerships between Australian universities and organisations and their European counterparts. He also leads a major project on comparative regional policy in Europe, Australia and Asia, looking at interventions to promote innovative economic development that improves the living and working conditions of people in metropolitan and rural city-regions. Insights from this work can be found in *A New Imperative: Regions and Higher Education in Difficult Times*, published by Manchester University Press in 2013 with Chris Duke and Mike Osborne. He was a founding Co-Director of Pascal International Observatory.



Dr Ben Wellings

Dr Wellings is a Deputy Director of the European and EU Centre at Monash University. His expertise includes nationalism in England and Scotland, Euroscepticism in the United Kingdom, the politics of Great War commemoration in Australia and Europe, European Union politics and European history in the twentieth century. Dr Wellings is an award-winning teacher and lecturer and speaks on television and radio on matters relating to European politics and history.



Marian Schoen

Marian Schoen is the Executive Director of the University of Melbourne European Union Centre for Shared Complex Challenges. Previous positions include Deputy Director of the LH Martin Institute for Tertiary Education Leadership and Management, General Manager of the Melbourne School of Engineering and Executive Director of the Melbourne Law School. As Director of the Australia Centre Europe, she represented Go8 institutions and established relationships with Australian and European governments and agencies and diplomatic representatives for trade, higher education and science. She holds three master's degrees (laws, arts administration and tertiary education management). She is admitted as a barrister and solicitor of the High Court of Australia, and the Supreme Courts of Tasmania, New South Wales and Papua New Guinea.



Julian Sheezel

Julian Sheezel is Chief of Staff for the Hon Kelly O'Dwyer MP, Minister for Small Business & Assistant Treasurer. Mr Sheezel has worked for the Liberal Party of Australia since 2003. He worked as State Director & Campaign Director (Victoria) 2003-08, State Director & Campaign Director (South Australia) 2009-10 and Deputy Federal Director 2010-15. He was a Manager in Taxation (Hong Kong & Bangkok) at KPMG 1997-2001, after which he worked as Senior Manager in Taxation (Melbourne) 2001-2003. Mr Sheezel holds a Bachelor of Commerce degree and a Master of Taxation degree.



Dr Carolyn O'Brien

Dr O'Brien is the Senior International Relations and Policy Officer at the Australian Academy of Technological Sciences and Engineering (ATSE). She was educated in Europe and Australia and completed a PhD in European Studies at Monash University in 2002. Dr O'Brien has worked as a researcher and lecturer in European Studies programs at Monash University, Deakin University and the University of Melbourne. In 2003 she joined the International Relations Office at the University of Melbourne as international policy advisor where she focused on the development of international linkages for academic cooperation and exchange for over ten years. In October 2015 she commenced in the international relations role at the Australian Academy of Technology and Engineering (ATSE), one of Australia's four learned academies.



Lida Amiri

During her literary and linguistics studies at the University of Wuppertal, Lida Amiri obtained the opportunity to work and study in the United States (2010/2011) and in France (2011/2012). Furthermore, she attended political roundtables organised by the Fulbright Commission in Washington D.C. and the DAAD at the Maison Heinrich Heine in Paris. With her social engagement for children of difficult backgrounds, she was engaged in programs like Mercator and INSAF. Currently, Lida Amiri pursues in her second year a PhD at the University of Melbourne.