



## Australian Institute of International Affairs

### **Roundtable Discussion with the UK Shadow Foreign Secretary, Mr Douglas Alexander**

#### **Outcomes Report**

The Australian Institute of International Affairs hosted a roundtable discussion for the UK Shadow Foreign Secretary Mr Douglas Alexander on Friday 28 June 2013 at the AIIA National Office Conference Centre. Mr Alexander expressed an interest in an interactive dialogue with an expert audience while on a one-week visit to Australia (24-29 June) as a guest of the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade under the Special Visits Program (SVP).

The event began with a welcome by AIIA Executive Director Melissa Conley Tyler. Mr Alexander then made some opening remarks emphasising the importance of the United Kingdom's relationship with Australia. Following on from these introductory remarks, the subsequent discussion included topics such as transitions in Asia, Australia-UK relations and the role of the UK as a crucial entryway for Australians in Europe. The roundtable brought together a number of Australia's foremost experts on those issues and Mr Alexander did not hesitate to ask these experts a wide range of questions.





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### Participants

The AIIA invited guests from a variety of backgrounds and areas of expertise.

#### Government:

**Mr Philip Flood AO**

Former Commissioner to the UK, Former Director-General of the Office of National Assessments.

**Mr Allan Gyngell AO FAIIA**

Former Director General of the Office of National Assessments from 2009 to 2013.

**Dr Alan Ryan**

Executive Director, Australian Civil-Military Center.

#### Academia:

**Emeritus Professor Peter Drysdale AM FAIIA**

Head of the East Asian Bureau of Economic Research and East Asia Forum at the Crawford School of Public Policy at the Australian National University.

**Dr Christian Enemark**

Associate Professor at the National Security College in the Crawford School of Public Policy, Australian National University.

**Ms Toni Erskine**

Professor at the Australian Defence Force Academy, UNSW Canberra

**Dr Ben Wellings**

Convenor of European Studies, College of Arts and Social Sciences , ANU.

#### AIIA Representatives:

**Ms Melissa Conley-Tyler**

National Executive Director, Australian Institute of International Affairs.

**Mr Ian Dudgeon**

Australian Institute of International Affairs Presidential Associate

**Ms Nina Markovic**

AIIA ACT Branch Vice President, PhD candidate in Political Science at the ANU Centre for European Studies.

**Dr June Verrier**

AIIA ACT Branch, Former Head of the Australian Parliament's Information and Research Service of the Department of the Parliamentary Library.



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### Acknowledgements

The AIA would like to thank Mr Douglas Alexander, the UK Shadow Foreign Secretary; Mr Richard Farleigh at DFAT for his help in coordinating the visit of Mr Alexander under the Special Visitor Program; all others who attended and contributed to the roundtable discussion; and Bridget Crane and Olivia Scaramuzza at National Office as the organising team.



*Mr Philip Flood AO; Mr Douglas Alexander; Mr Ian Dudgeon*