



Australian Institute of International Affairs *Victoria*

THE 2018-19 YEAR IN REVIEW

SPEAKER EVENTS

YOUNG
PROFESSIONALS
FORUM

INTERNATIONAL
CAREERS
CONFERENCE

SIR ZELMAN COWEN
ORATION





Speaker Events, Conferences and Young Professionals Forum (YPF) Events Year to June 2019

Our remit is to broaden the knowledge of international affairs in Australia.

During the 2018-19 financial year AIIA Victoria held 42 speaker events attended by over 3,000 members and guests.

Speaker events were split equally between issues, and countries. Brexit; Artificial Intelligence; Global Health Challenges; War Crimes and International Law; Arctic and Antarctic Security, and US Foreign Policy were discussed in depth. The UK and the EU featured strongly as did Iran, China, Indonesia, Russia, and the wider Indo-Pacific.

We regularly hosted serving or retired diplomats, and a former Under-Secretary-General of UN Peacekeeping, Jean-Marie Guéhenno in conversation with former Foreign Minister Prof. The Hon Gareth Evans AC QC FASSA FAIIA. Academics, foreign correspondents, authors and researchers comprised the balance.

The Young Professionals Forum (YPF) held six events during the year – mostly workshops and personal development seminars.

The 14th International Careers Conference attracted over 220 students.

The 12th Sir Zelman Cowen Oration was given by The Hon Brendan Nelson AO on "*Centenary of Armistice: Honouring Service and Leadership*".

We arranged two Study Tours during the year. The first to Timor Leste in October 2018 and the second to Indonesia in June 2019.

Many, many people must be thanked for making all this possible; our executive, our interns and volunteers, our members, and above all, our speakers who all gave of themselves and their time.

Patrick Moore
President

Dyason House
Monday, September 2, 2019



Australian Institute of International Affairs *Victoria*

THE 2018-19 YEAR IN REVIEW: CONTENTS

SPEAKER EVENTS

Regular events hosted at Dyason House in East Melbourne

YOUNG PROFESSIONALS FORUM

AIIA Victoria's youth network seminars and workshops

INTERNATIONAL CAREERS CONFERENCE

A full-day event structured around a keynote address, and panels covering government, international business, and international agencies/NGOs; and a series of career-specific masterclasses.

SIR ZELMAN COWEN ORATION

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

Book Launch: *Revisiting Gendered States*

Keynote Speaker: Dr Sharman Stone, Ambassador for Women and Girls

Thursday 5 July 2018: 5.30pm for 6.00pm – 8.00pm at Dyason House, 124 Jolimont Road, East Melbourne

Revisiting Gendered States follows the 2001 publication *Gendered States*, which explored the difference that gender makes in international relations and in the construction of the sovereign state system.

Subtitled *Feminist Imaginings of the State in International Relations*, the new book reviews how gender plays into human rights, nationalist movements, development, and economic globalisation, with a focus on state identities and post-colonial peacebuilding.



The collective theories of the modern state and its intricate relationship to security, identity politics, and gender are explored, focusing on states in Africa, Europe and Asia-Pacific, featuring contributors from all parts of the world.

What has changed since the beginning of the 21st century for women in state-building? How does religion, ethnicity, and class play a role in the gendered nature of state power? How different are post-colonial states to metropolitan states regarding gender?

Keynote speaker Dr Sharman Stone, Ambassador for Women and Girls will be followed by a panel discussion led by Professor Jacqui True including editors and contributors Dr Christine Agius, Dr David Duriesmith, Dr Samantha Gunawardana, Associate Professor Katrina Lee-Koo, and Dr Lesley Pruitt. This will be followed by a reception, and copies of the book will be available for purchase on the evening. Co-hosting with [Monash GPS](#), AIIA Victoria is delighted to welcome Dr Stone, and the editors and contributors to this book to discuss this crucial perspective.

Dr Sharman Stone is the Australian Ambassador for Women and Girls, and served as the Chair of the Parliamentary Foreign Affairs Defence and Trade and Aid Sub Committee. She has championed causes of women's health and rights in Australia and internationally throughout her career.

Professor Jacqui True FASSA is Professor of Politics & International Relations and an Australian Research Council Future Fellow, and Director of Monash University's Gender, Peace, and Security Centre (Monash GPS). *Revisiting Gendered States* (Oxford University Press, 2018) is her most recent publication in collaboration with co-editors Dr Swati Parashar and Professor J. Ann Tickner.

RSVP: TEL: (03) 9654 7271 or **BOOK ONLINE:** www.internationalaffairs.org.au/vic

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Refreshments served



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The New Spectrum of Islamism in Malaysia and Indonesia

Speaker: Dr. Mohamed Nawab Osman

Thursday 19 July, 2018: 6pm for 6.20pm – 7.30pm at Dyason House, 124 Jolimont Road, East Melbourne

The 14th Malaysian general election in May 2018 marked the first change of government since the nation's independence in 1957. Although many observers saw the momentous result as the sign of a new liberal democratic era in Malaysia, a closer analysis of the results points to alternative possible trajectories.



The Pan-Malaysian Islamic Party (PAS) had a strong electoral showing, winning control of two state governments and capturing 18% of the popular vote in support for its Islamist agenda.

This suggests that the prominent role of Islamist civil society groups during the election translated into increased support for political Islam.

Similar political trends are present in Indonesia, where former Jakarta governor Basuki Tjahaja Purnama (Ahok) lost re-election in 2017 after an intense campaign by Islamist civil society groups denouncing his allegedly blasphemous comments.

Do these cases suggest a sustained increase in Islamist influence in the political sphere? How do Islamist civil society and political actors interact, and why has this interaction suddenly increased?

AIIA Victoria invites you to hear Dr Nawab Osman's insights into the increasing confluence of civil and political Islam in Malaysia and Indonesia, and to discuss the likely future trajectory of this trend.

Dr Mohamed Nawab Osman is assistant professor and Coordinator of the Malaysia Program at the S. Rajaratnam School of International Studies (RSIS) at Nanyang Technological University in Singapore. He also coordinates RSIS' Seminar Series on Muslim Societies in Asia. His research interests include the domestic and international politics of Southeast and South Asian countries, transnational Islamic political movements and Islamophobia studies. He is the author of *Hizbut Tahrir Indonesia: Identity, Ideology and Religo-Political Mobilisation* (Routledge, 2018), and *Islam and Peace-Building the Asia-Pacific* (World Scientific, 2017).

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Australian Global Trade, Blockchain, and Cryptocurrency

Josh Hyland, Austrade

Tuesday 24 July, 2018: 6pm for 6.20pm – 7.30pm at Dyason House, 124 Jolimont Road, East Melbourne

Blockchain has been referred to as the second great information revolution and is set to change international trade forever.

Commonly known only from its application to bitcoin and cryptocurrency, the transformative technology of blockchain will affect far more than only the financial sector.

Australian blockchain companies have developed leading technologies lending themselves for use in other major industry verticals such as agriculture, resources & energy, health and logistics.



Australia has gained international attention for its regulatory proactiveness towards cryptocurrency and thoughtful approach to protecting crypto-businesses and investors alike. How can Australia benefit from this stance? How can leading Australian blockchain companies use their technology to better developing countries?

AIIA Victoria is delighted to welcome Josh Hyland, Trade Advisor at the Australian Trade and Investment Commission (Austrade) to share the organisation's activities to grow Australian capability in this sector. Recently back from an outbound mission to 'Consensus' – the largest blockchain mission held in May in New York City – Josh will share findings from the trip.

Josh Hyland has seven years' experience in trade and investment across multiple sectors including manufacturing, import/export, education, technology and retail. Spending 13 years in Southeast Asia, Josh has a deep understanding of international business and worked broadly between the private and public sectors. Josh is former Vice President of the Australia-Thai Chamber of Commerce, has operated his own consultancy business and worked on numerous large-scale export projects. He is now Trade and Investment Advisor, at Austrade and working in the Services and Technology division.

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War Crimes and International Law

Richard Iron CMG, OBE in conversation with
The Honourable Justice Lesley Taylor

Tuesday 31 July 2018: 6pm for 6.20pm – 7.30pm at Dyason House, 124 Jolimont Road, East Melbourne

War crimes and crimes against humanity appear to be a growing feature of modern conflict, whether in the jungles of Africa or the deserts of Iraq and Syria.

International law has impacted war since the first Geneva Convention of 1864 codified the protection of sick and wounded soldiers on the battlefield. It wasn't until the Nuremberg trials of 1945-46 that the international community created a mechanism for the prosecution and punishment of war crimes perpetrators.

Today, the International Criminal Court at The Hague is the first permanent body responsible for investigating and prosecuting war crimes.

Why do combatants commit war crimes and how can they be stopped? How does international law differ from national law in its handling of war crimes? Does effective prosecution help societal reconciliation post-conflict, and does it prevent future conflict?

AIIA Victoria is delighted to invite you to the next instalment of the 'In Conversation' series to hear the insights of the Honourable Justice Lesley Taylor, one of Australia's most experienced international criminal lawyers.

***The Honourable Justice Lesley Taylor** is a Judge of the Supreme Court of Victoria. She practised criminal law and human rights law for 25 years, 8 as Queen's Counsel. She was Senior Trial Counsel at the Office of the Prosecutor at the Special Court for Sierra Leone in 2003-05. In 2006 she was appointed Senior Counsel to the UNHCHR Inquiry into Timor Leste and in 2011 she was Senior Counsel to the EU Parliament backed Commission of Inquiry into Kyrgyzstan.*

***Richard Iron CMG, OBE** 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.*



*The Honourable Justice Lesley Taylor (front centre)
with the prosecution team at the Special Court for
Sierra Leone 2004*

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Islam, Law, and the State in the Philippines: The Mindanao Conflict

Dr Kerstin Steiner

Tuesday 7 August 2018: 6pm for 6.20pm – 7.00pm at Dyason House, 124 Jolimont Road, East Melbourne

Islam plays a pivotal political role in Southeast Asian countries, whether in the Muslim majority countries or the Muslim minority countries such as the Philippines.

The Muslim-majority island of Mindanao has historically experienced high levels of religious based extremist behaviour and violence, with recent escalation.

Previous government policies on the Moros (Muslims were known as 'Moros' or Moors by the Spanish) have taken many different forms, from armed intervention; failed attempts at integration; peace negotiations; and various largely unsatisfactory attempts at political and religious accommodation. They have also included mediation by a range of international actors.

How has the state reacted to requests to enforce Islamic law by leaders of the Philippines minority Muslim communities? What are the possibilities of ending this ongoing conflict?

AIIA Victoria invites you to hear firsthand from Dr Kerstin Steiner as she shares the experience of her recent research trip to Mindanao.

Dr Kerstin Steiner is Associate Professor and Director (International) at the Law School at La Trobe University. She is also a Senior Associate at the Centre for Indonesian Law, Islam and Society and Associate at the Asian Law Centre at the University of Melbourne, as well as an Advisory Board Member of the Philippine International Studies Organization. She specialises in Southeast Asian legal studies researching at the intersection of law, politics, economics and society, especially with regard to Islam. Her international visiting positions include the Centre for Socio-legal Studies at Oxford University, and she is currently co-researching an ARC Discovery Project 'Islam, Law and the State in the Philippines'. Her notable works include *Islam, Law and the State in Southeast Asia*, a co-authored two volume series on *Singapore, Malaysia and Brunei*, and a co-edited special volume of the *Current Journal of Southeast Asian Affairs* on 'The Bureaucratisation of Islam in Southeast Asia: Transdisciplinary Perspectives'.



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Turkey at the Crossroads

Dr Y. Alp Aslandogan
Executive Director, Alliance for Shared Values (USA)

Monday 13th August, 2018: 6pm for 6.20pm – 7.30pm at Dyason House, 124 Jolimont Road, East Melbourne

Turkey's 24 June general election saw Recep Tayyip Erdogan's AKP (Justice and Development Party) and its nationalist allies claim a victory. This victory marked the end of the ambitious transition to a presidential system of government, from the parliamentary system in place since the founding of the Turkish Republic.

The result comes at a crucial time, with Turkey facing multiple transitions, including shifting relations with its NATO allies in the European Union and the US, increasing enmeshment with geopolitical developments in Syria and the Middle East, closer relations with Russia, and changes in its civil society.



At this critical juncture, there is increased speculation over the direction of Turkish domestic and foreign policy. What are the dimensions and extent of President Erdogan's structural reforms in the country? How is the practice of Islam in Turkey likely to evolve under prolonged Erdogan rule? What are the implications of the executive presidential system for the country's international alliances and security in the Middle East?

AIIA Victoria, in conjunction with the Australian Intercultural Society, invites you to hear from Dr Aslandogan.

Dr Y. Alp Aslandogan is the Executive Director of the Alliance for Shared Values, New York, which acts as the medium to relay statements from Fethullah Gulen and the Hizmet movement. He formerly served as the board president of the Institute of Interfaith Dialogue in Houston, Texas. He has co-authored the book *Muslim Citizens of the Globalized World: Contributions of the Gulen Movement*, and is co-author of a forthcoming book on the history of democracy in Turkey. He is an editor and author of *Fountain* magazine, and a board member of the *Journal of Interreligious Dialogue*. He holds a PhD in Computer Science.

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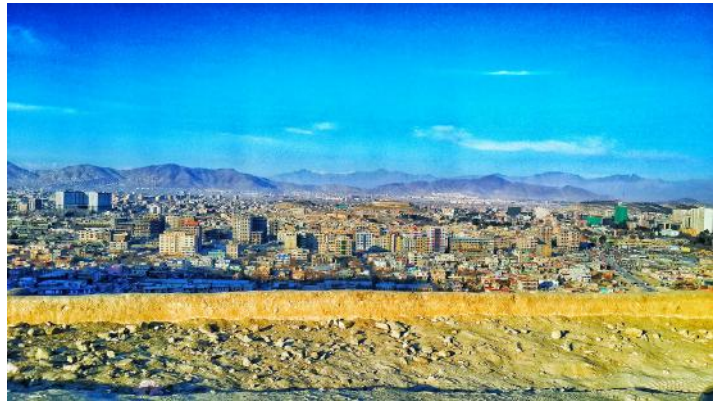
Afghanistan: The Way Forward

HE Mr Wahidullah Waissi, Ambassador of Afghanistan

Wednesday 22 August, 2018: 6pm for 6.20pm – 7.30pm at Dyason House, 124 Jolimont Road, East Melbourne

Since the fall of the Taliban in 2001, Afghanistan has made strides in reversing the effects of international isolation and rebuilding its institutions, weakened after decades of external interference and ensuing violence.

The international community has provided political and economic assistance during this period, with the aim of helping Afghanistan to re-emerge as a self-sufficient and stable state.



In April 2017, Afghan President Mohammed Ashraf Ghani visited Australia, marking the first ever visit by an Afghan President. Australia reaffirmed its commitment by pledging to increase the level of security and economic cooperation with Afghanistan.

What does the future of Afghanistan look like? What are the main influences and who are the main actors shaping this future? What role will the Australia-Afghanistan relationship play in this process?

AIIA Victoria invites you to join HE Mr Wahidullah Waissi, Ambassador of Afghanistan to Australia, to hear his unparalleled insight into these issues.



HE Mr Wahidullah Waissi is the Ambassador of Afghanistan to the Commonwealth of Australia. In this position he is also accredited to New Zealand and Fiji. He has been engaged in the field of international relations, development economics and diplomacy since 1998 at various government and non-government positions. At the Foreign Ministry he served as a senior advisor to the Minister for Regional Cooperation, and later as Director-General for Economic Cooperation where he coordinated regional projects. Mr Waissi also worked as Director and Formulation Manager for the National Development Strategy, Afghanistan's Millennium Development Goals and Sustainable Development Goals from 2005 to 2014. Mr Waissi is a PhD candidate at the Australian National University's Asia-Pacific College of Diplomacy. He holds a MA in International Development Economics from Williams College in Williamstown, Massachusetts. Connect with Mr. Waissi via Twitter @wahidwaissi

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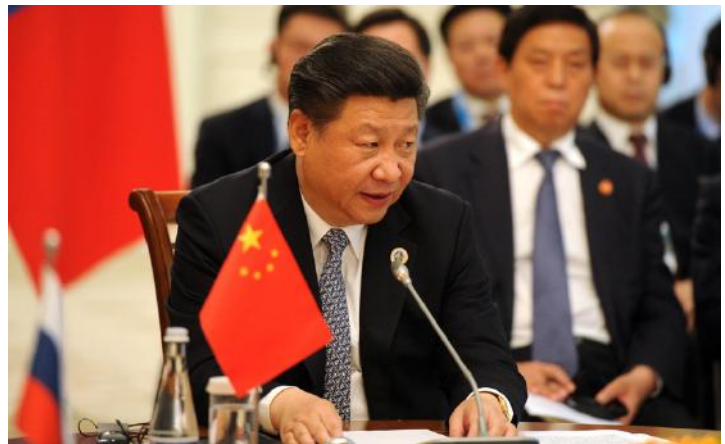
The People's Republic of China; Turning 70, and Planning World Leadership

Rowan Callick OBE FAIIA

Thursday 23 August, 2018: 6pm for 6.20pm – 7.30pm at Dyason House, 124 Jolimont Road, East Melbourne

AIIA Victoria invites you to an evening with renowned China Correspondent, Rowan Callick OBE FAIIA.

Rowan Callick will discuss the apotheosis of General Secretary Xi Jinping - how he has restructured China's governance and is now seeking a guiding role in global governance - and his party's extraordinarily long-lived success, as the last authoritarian party of the 20th century to dominate a major power, which is driving a new and breathtakingly ambitious international program.



Rowan Callick OBE FAIIA has been *The Australian's China Correspondent* for two spells in Beijing, and was previously *The Australian Financial Review's China Correspondent*. He is a Fellow of the Australian Institute of International Affairs (AIIA). He has won two Walkley Awards for his coverage of China and Hong Kong, and the Graham Perkin Award for Australian Journalist of the Year for his coverage of Papua New Guinea and the Pacific. He has written books on Hong Kong (*Comrades & Capitalists*, UNSW Press, 1998) and on China (*Party Time: Who Runs China, and How*, *Black Inc and Palgrave Macmillan*, 2013); and the story of the ground-breaking Channar iron ore mine in the Pilbara, commissioned by the joint venture owners, Sinosteel and Rio Tinto. He has been a member of the advisory councils of Australian foreign and aid ministers.

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Australia's Moment in the Indo-Pacific: Ensuring Security, Stability, and Prosperity

Peter Khalil MP

Wednesday 5 September, 2018: 6pm for 6.20pm – 7.30pm at Dyason House, 124 Jolimont Road, East Melbourne

Australia has a unique role as a middle power in the geostrategically important Indo-Pacific region. In the past, Australia has been disadvantaged by "the tyranny of distance", but the region's growing importance has placed us closer to the centre of some of the most critical challenges in international affairs.



Australia has the potential to positively impact the political dynamics of the Indo-Pacific region and influence key issues in the global arena. How the country manages its relationships over the coming decades will also be fundamentally important to its own security, stability, and prosperity.

How can Australia engage more effectively and manage its relationships with its regional partners? Does Australia have a responsibility to fill the leadership vacuum left by the transactional foreign policies of the current US administration?

AIIA Victoria invites you to hear Mr Peter Khalil MP give his unique perspective on the current challenges and opportunities that Australia faces in the international arena.



***Peter Khalil** is the federal member for Wills in the Australian Parliament and currently serves as Caucus Secretary of the Federal Parliamentary Labor Party and Chair of the International Affairs Caucus committee. Prior to his election to parliament in July 2016 Peter was Executive Director of Corporate Affairs, Strategy and Communications at SBS. Peter has worked as a foreign policy and national security adviser and as a senior international adviser to former Prime Minister Kevin Rudd and the Minister for Defence. Previously Peter was based in New York providing political risk consultancy to government, multinational corporations and Wall Street Financial institutions, and was a Visiting Fellow at the Brookings Institution in Washington D.C. Peter served with the Department of Defence in Iraq in 2003/2004 and was awarded the Australian Overseas Humanitarian Services medal. He also worked for the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade. He has published and appeared extensively in national and overseas news media, and holds degrees in Law and Arts from Melbourne University and a Masters of International Laws from the ANU. In October 2015 he was announced as one of the new Victorian Multicultural Commissioners.*

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Demography, Politics, and Power Transitions - Developments across Sub-Saharan Africa

Anna Rabin

Tuesday 11 September, 2018: 6pm for 6.20pm – 7.30pm at Dyason House, 124 Jolimont Road, East Melbourne

Sub-Saharan Africa's economic, political, and social influence is expanding globally. While regional states are increasingly taking advantage of new opportunities, recent power transitions and changes in politics also pose fresh challenges.

Recent political transitions have occurred in many forms - from *the puppet master*, *the power vacuum*, and *the petulant* - leaders have either stood aside or stood in the way of political transitions. Although these power transitions seem to follow familiar patterns, the way in which they have occurred is new, significantly impacting the trajectory of various countries.



Citizens' reactions to these power shifts have also evolved. Urbanisation, a growing middle class, increased literacy levels, and access to non-traditional media sources has changed domestic expectations of government, governance, and the private sector.

What are the most recent developments in the Sub-Saharan African political landscape? How have power transitions changed, and what do shifting domestic expectations mean for the future?

AIIA Victoria invites you to join Anna Rabin as she provides a tour of Sub-Saharan Africa's current political landscape, comparing, contrasting, and analysing recent trends.

Anna Rabin is a political risk and foreign policy expert. She is a Director at Dragoman where she works with clients to provide bespoke political, commercial, and strategic advice. Anna previously worked as a Senior Consultant with africapractice, a strategy and communications consultancy, based in its Tanzanian office where she was responsible for leading projects across East Africa. Anna has also worked as an East Africa Analyst at Think Africa Press in London. She has a Master's Degree in African Politics from the School of Oriental and African Studies and a Bachelor's Degree in Political Science and International Studies from the University of Melbourne.

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Artificial Intelligence and International Affairs

Dr Alan Finkel AO FAA FTSE, Chief Scientist of Australia

Thursday 13 September 2018: 6pm for 6.20pm – 7.30pm at Dyason House, 124 Jolimont Road, East Melbourne

Artificial intelligence (AI) has the potential to deliver transformative change, improving technologies in fields as varied as health, education, and defence. As a result, governments and private companies are engaged in intense competition to harness its potential and dominate the emerging industry.



As AI increasingly permeates both the private and public spheres, it also faces challenges. The technology's detractors argue that it is poorly regulated despite posing numerous ethical challenges, particularly regarding its potential surveillance and military applications, and its misuse by autocratic and belligerent governments. Such suspicion of AI intelligence poses a serious hurdle to its widespread implementation.

What is AI and why do people distrust it? What are the latest developments and its potential applications and innovations? Which nations dominate this emerging field, and what could be Australia's role?

AIIA Victoria is delighted to host Dr Alan Finkel AO FAA FTSE, Chief Scientist of Australia, as he provides an overview of artificial intelligence and its implications for international relations.

Dr Alan Finkel AO FAA FTSE is Australia's Chief Scientist and serves as Deputy Chair of Innovation and Science Australia. He was previously Chancellor of Monash University and the President of the Australian Academy of Technology and Engineering (ATSE). He has an extensive science background as an entrepreneur, engineer, neuroscientist and educator. Since commencing as Chief Scientist, Dr Finkel has led a number of national reviews, delivering the National Research Infrastructure Roadmap, the National Electricity Market review ("Finkel Review") and the STEM Industry Partnership Forum report. He has received the Mountbatten Medal (UK), the Clunies Ross Award, and was named 2016 Victorian of the Year. He holds a PhD in electrical engineering from Monash University and worked as a postdoctoral research fellow at the Australian National University.

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What the Loss of God Means for the West

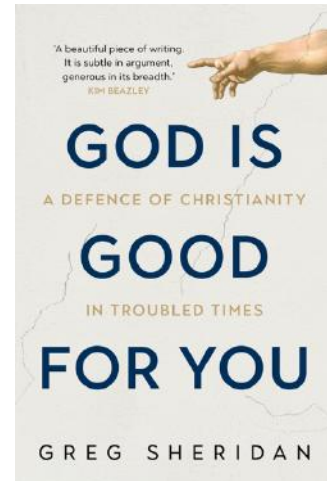
Greg Sheridan AO FAIIA

Thursday 20 September, 2018: 6pm for 6.20pm – 7.30pm at Dyason House, 124 Jolimont Road, East Melbourne

Christian notions of morality have long informed the legal, political, and social fabric of Western civilisation. However, while numbers of religious devotees continue to grow globally, faith is in decline in the West.

With Christianity shifting from the dominant position it has occupied in Western society to a minority faith, the culture it underpins is also inevitably changing. This has domestic consequences for Western countries as well as geostrategic implications for the realm of international affairs, as the Western political bloc undergoes change.

Why is faith in decline across the West while it increases worldwide? What affect is this having on Western countries? What inferences can be drawn regarding the likely international effects of these changes?



AIIA Victoria invites you to join Greg Sheridan AO FAIIA, as he discusses his latest book *God is Good for You – a Defence of Christianity in Troubled Times* (Allen & Unwin, 2018), giving an account of the continued importance of Christianity to the West, its current decline, and the geopolitical implications this may have.

Greg Sheridan will be presented with his AIIA Fellow's Award by Zara Kimpton OAM, AIIA National Vice-President.



Greg Sheridan AO FAIIA is one of Australia's most influential foreign affairs and national security commentators. He entered journalism at the *Bulletin* magazine in 1979 and joined *The Australian* in 1984, serving as Beijing correspondent and Washington correspondent. After working in the Canberra press gallery, he became the paper's foreign editor in 1992, the position he holds today. He has held numerous think tank positions as a Visiting Fellow, including at the Centre for

Strategic and International Studies, Washington DC, at the Woodrow Wilson Centre for International Scholars, Washington DC, and at the Australian Army's Land Warfare Studies Centre, Canberra. He is a Distinguished Fellow at the Australia India Institute at the University of Melbourne and board member at the Australian Government's Australia Indonesia Institute. He has written seven books and is Contributing Editor at Washington-based journal, the National Interest. He is active across TV and radio and his work has appeared widely in international publications.

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The Decline of Western Influence in the Global Order

Dr Ian Fry

Wednesday 10 October, 2018: 6pm for 6.20pm – 7.30pm at Dyason House, 124 Jolimont Road, East Melbourne

The world is dividing into new alliances, with the Western Bloc becoming increasingly fragmented as other groupings emerge. As a result, the US-led hegemonic system that favours the West is dissolving and its authority declining.



With such significant global power shifts underway, Western states are witnessing the inversion of their traditional interstate relationships. Any adverse effects that these new power dynamics have will depend on the measures that the West takes to reject change or to adapt to it.

Australia is well placed to support initiatives to stabilise these rebalanced relationships, thanks to its geopolitical, cultural, economic, and academic resources. Despite this, political paralysis due to Australia's position between the US, China, and other actors may prove a strong challenge to its future leadership in a new global order.

What global political blocs are emerging today and what are the dynamics between them? Can these actors successfully rebalance in a peaceful way? What is Australia's likely role in this process?

AIIA Victoria invites you to join Dr Ian Fry as he lays out his theologically-informed view of current global geopolitical realities.

***Dr Ian Fry** is an interfaith research and dialogue consultant, and an Honorary Postdoctoral Associate at the University of Divinity, where his research is focussed on interfaith dialogue between Christianity, Islam, Judaism and non-Abrahamic faiths. He has previously served as General Manager of Word Publishing Company, the Times of Papua New Guinea, Founding Manager and Editor of the Eastern Star for the Community Resource Development Association, also in PNG, after an earlier career in the agricultural sector.*

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The Syrian Conflict: Current Dynamics and Outlook

Dr Dara Conduit

Tuesday 16 October, 2018: 6pm for 6.20pm – 7.30pm at Dyason House, 124 Jolimont Road, East Melbourne

The Syrian civil war has descended into a brutal, entrenched conflict after emerging in 2011 from the Arab Spring protests. Numerous developments and power shifts have occurred since, with the Assad regime regaining a strong position after its apparently imminent earlier demise.



The conflict has had a profound impact, embroiling countless actors and influencing politics across the globe. Neighbouring and regional states, nationalist and religious groups, and global powers have become entangled militarily in Syria. The advent of terrorist groups such as ISIS and the immense refugee crisis arising from the conflict's humanitarian impacts has exacerbated political instability in Syria's neighbours and Western countries.

How did the Syrian conflict arise and who are the main actors? How has the conflict evolved and what impacts has it had? Is there any prospect of a resolution in the near future, and how would this come about?

AIIA Victoria invites you to join Dr Dara Conduit as she draws on her extensive research expertise to outline the dynamics and legacy of the Syrian conflict.

Dr Dara Conduit is an Associate Research Fellow in the Middle East Studies Forum at the Alfred Deakin Institute for Citizenship and Globalisation, Deakin University, where she works on Syria and Iran. She has an M.Litt from the University of St Andrews, was a Visiting Scholar at the University of Cambridge, is a board member of the Syrian Studies Association and has provided advice to the UN OHCHR's Working Group on Mercenaries. Her PhD from Monash University on the Muslim Brotherhood in Syria was a finalist for the Terrorism Research Institute's annual thesis award and won the Monash University SPS program Best Thesis Prize.

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Refreshments served



Arctic and Antarctic Security

Lunchtime roundtable: international panel

Friday 26 October, 2018: 11.30am for 12pm – 2pm at Dyason House, 124 Jolimont Road, East Melbourne

As the climate is warming and sea ice melts, the polar regions are gaining increased significance in international relations.

In the Arctic, the opening of sea lanes and increased access to natural resources are contributing to an increased focus on the region. The Northern Sea Route has been described as a new maritime highway, a new resources frontier and a new military theatre.

In the southern hemisphere, the governance of Antarctica has emerged as a geopolitical issue due to the increased presence there of China, India and Russia; the continent's importance in understanding global climate change; and its economic potential as a source of marine, genetic and mineral resources.



You are invited to hear a distinguished panel of international experts discuss the political, social, economic and environmental challenges currently facing polar peoples and places.

AIIA Victoria gratefully acknowledges the support of the [Polar Research and Policy Initiative](#) in London and [Trent University](#), Ontario, Canada.

Panel members:

Mead Treadwell (USA), former Lt Governor of Alaska; former Chair of the US Arctic Research Commission under Presidents Bush and Obama; Member, World Economic Forum's Global Agenda Council on the Arctic 2012-2016; Chair, Polar Advisory Board, Iridium

Professor Heather Nicol (Canada), Director, School for the Study of Canada, Trent University; Professor, School of the Environment, Trent University; Convenor, UArctic Thematic Network for Circumpolar Studies; Member, Arctic Thematic Network on Geopolitics and Security

Professor Christian Leuprecht (Canada), Class of 1965 Professor in Leadership, Department of Political Science, Royal Military College of Canada; Matthew Flinders Fellow, Flinders University, South Australia; President, International Sociological Association's Research Committee 01: Armed Forces and Conflict Resolution; Fellow, Queen's Centre for International and Defence Policy, Queen's University

Dr Dwayne Menezes (UK), Founder and Managing Director, Polar Research and Policy Initiative, Commonwealth Policy Development Centre and Human Security Centre; Associate Fellow, Institute of Commonwealth Studies, University of London; Honorary Fellow, Institute of Risk and Disaster Reduction, UCL

Professor Derek McDougall (Australia), Professorial Fellow, School of Social and Political Sciences, University of Melbourne

Dr Daniel Bray (Australia), Senior Lecturer in International Relations at La Trobe University. His expertise is in international ethics, global governance, democratic theory and environmental politics. Winner of the *Australian Journal of International Affairs*' Boyer Prize for 2016, awarded annually to commend the best article published in the journal, for his *The Geopolitics of Antarctic Governance: Sovereignty and Strategic Denial in Australia's Antarctic Policy*.

11.30am: Light lunch **12.00pm:** Panel discussion **1pm:** Q&A **1.30pm:** Coffee/tea **2pm:** Event concludes

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Missiles, Nuclear Ambition and Iran's Regional Strategy

Brigadier General (ret.) Uzi Rubin

Monday 29 October, 2018: 6pm for 6.20pm – 7.30pm at Dyason House, 124 Jolimont Road, East Melbourne

President Trump's decision in June to withdraw from the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA) – the Iran nuclear deal so painstakingly negotiated by his predecessor – has left Israel with a very different geopolitical landscape in which to pursue its strategic objectives.



Israel's aims of preventing Iran from obtaining nuclear weapons, thwarting the fundamentally hostile orientation of the regime and preventing future military conflict are presented with new options following the US withdrawal from the JCPOA.

What are Israel's perspectives now on regional security? What impact may tightening US sanctions have on Iran? What part can the EU still play?

AIIA Victoria in conjunction with [AIJAC](#) invites you to join Brig.Gen Uzi Rubin as he shares his insights on the regional security environment.

Brigadier General (ret.) Uzi Rubin is a former Brigadier General in the Israeli Air Force. He has been involved in Israeli military research, development, and engineering programs for almost forty years. Between 1991 and 1999, he served as head of Israel's Missile Defence Organization, and in that capacity, he oversaw the development of Israel's Arrow anti-missile defence system. He was twice awarded the Israel Defense Prize (1996 and 2003). He was also awarded the US Missile Defense Agency "David Israel" Prize (2000). He has been a visiting scholar at the Stanford Center for International Security and Arms Control, where he directed a study on missile proliferation. He is currently completing a Ph.D. in this field.

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**Australian Institute
of International Affairs**
Victoria

Balcony over Jerusalem: A Memoir of Life in the Middle East

John Lyons in conversation with Richard Iron CMG OBE

Wednesday 14 November, 2018: 6pm for 6.20pm – 7.30pm at Dyason House, 124 Jolimont Road, East Melbourne

The issues of the Middle East are central to the future of international affairs. Nowhere in the region are these complex challenges more evident than in Jerusalem.

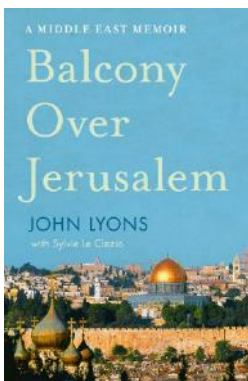
From the convergence of age-old rivalries to renewed controversies such as the relocation of the US embassy, daily life in Jerusalem is a microcosm of global politics.



Leading Australian journalist John Lyons lived in the city with his family and reported from this unique position on the ups and downs of the region. From being arrested by Egyptian soldiers, talking with Hamas in Gaza, with Iranian clerics, and with Israeli troops, he has gained a unique perspective on the politics and happenings of the region.

What is the current state of the Middle East? What is it like being at the forefront of reporting there? How do regional issues intersect in Jerusalem?

AIIA Victoria invites you to hear from John Lyons as he recounts lessons included in his recent book *Balcony Over Jerusalem* (Harper Collins, 2017), a memoir like no other.



John Lyons is the ABC's Head of Investigative and In-Depth Journalism. A three-time Walkley Award winner, he was previously Associate Editor (Digital Content) at *The Australian*. He has been the Editor of *The Sydney Morning Herald* and Executive Producer of the Nine Network's Sunday program. He has served as a foreign correspondent in Washington, New York, and most recently Jerusalem. From the Middle East he won the Walkley for best investigative journalism for a report presented on the ABC's *Four Corners*, and he has also won the Graham Perkin Award for Australian Journalist of the Year. While based in Jerusalem, he was awarded three United Nations human rights awards.

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Russia's Escalating Military Power in the Asia-Pacific

Dr Alexey D. Muraviev, Curtin University

Monday 19 November, 2018: 6pm for 6.20pm – 7.30pm at Dyason House, 124 Jolimont Road, East Melbourne

China has made remarkable strides in building up its defence capability, but it is worth noting that another military power is increasingly making its presence felt in the Asia Pacific region - Russia.



Post-Cold War assumptions tend to be that Moscow has little political influence due to its reduced military power and limited economic engagement with our region. However, current strategic realities are very different.

Russia is beginning to rebuild its combat potential, and under President Vladimir Putin's leadership, the once cash-strapped military force has received a massive financial boost and, more importantly, full political support. After years of decline and neglect, Russian military power in the Asia-Pacific region is making a major leap forward, showcased most recently by the Vostok 2018 war games held jointly with China.

In addition to existing security and defence relationships with China, India and more recently Pakistan, Russia has been actively seeking to build ties with other countries on Australia's doorstep.

Does Australia need to rethink its defence strategy in the Asia-Pacific region? Should Australia deal with the Russian strategic agenda through soft or hard diplomacy?

AIIA Victoria is delighted to welcome back Dr Alexey Muraviev to share his insights.

Dr Alexey D. Muraviev is Associate Professor of National Security and Strategic Studies at Curtin University, Perth, Western Australia. Founder and Director of the Strategic Flashlight forum on national security and strategy, he served as head of the Department of Social Sciences and Security at Curtin University from 2013-2017. Alongside his work as an advisor state and commonwealth departments and agencies on national security and defence matters, he has published widely on national and international security. He is a member of the Australian Member Committee, Council for Security Cooperation in the Asia-Pacific region (AU-CSCAP); non-residential fellow, Sea Power Centre Australia (Royal Australian Navy); member of Russia-NATO Experts Group; member of the International Institute for Strategic Studies, London; reviewer of the Military Balance annual defence almanac; on the executive advisory board, CIVSEC



2020 international congress and exposition; member of the Advisory Board, Australia Public Network, and member of the Research Network for Secure Australia. Alexey is frequently interviewed by Australian and international media, including CNN, Fox News, BBC Radio, the Guardian, Bloomberg, Asian Times, ABC TV and Radio, The Australian and other.

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**Australian Institute
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Asian Century...on a Knife-edge

Speaker: John West

Tuesday 20 November, 2018: 6pm for 6.20pm – 7.30pm at Dyason House, 124 Jolimont Road, East Melbourne

China's rise is reflected in the Belt and Road Initiative, and Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank. It is transforming the Asian regional order. But China faces a host of domestic challenges, notably overcoming the middle-income trap.

China is challenging the US' traditional role in East Asia. The US is pushing back against China's trade practices, by launching a "trade war". But

America's traditional allies and partners feel unsure about the reliability of the US. India and Indonesia are also emerging economic powerhouses.



Will Asia's giants of China, India and Indonesia be able to realise their potential? What impact will the Trump presidency have on the prospects of an Asian century? How can Australia best chart its future in these increasingly uncertain times?

AIIA Victoria invites you to join John West, as he discusses his latest book *Asian Century...on a Knife-edge* (Palgrave Macmillan 2018), which offers a reassessment of China, India and Indonesia as fragile superpowers.



John West has had a long career as an educator, journalist, researcher and policy-maker. He currently teaches Asia's economic development at Tokyo's Sophia University. He is a Contributing Editor for *FDI-Intelligence*, a *Financial Times* magazine, and is also Executive Director of the Asian Century Institute. These current positions follow major stints at the Australian Treasury as director of balance of payments (1980-86), the OECD as head of public affairs and director OECD Forum (1986-2008), and the Asian Development Bank Institute

as senior consultant for capacity-building and training (2009-2011). John also taught globalization at the Institut d'Etudes Politiques (Sciences Po) in Paris from 2006 to 2008.

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What's Happening to the Uyghurs in China?

Panel discussion

Friday 7 December, 2018: 12pm for 12.20pm – 2pm at Dyason House, 124 Jolimont Road, East Melbourne

In the Chinese region of Xinjiang, tens of thousands of ethnic Uyghurs and other Muslim minorities have been detained inside enormous extrajudicial 're-education camps'.

China claims the region faces a serious threat from Islamist militants and separatists, stirring up tensions between the mostly Muslim Uyghur minority and the ethnic Han majority.



After months of denial, the Chinese Government now claims these camps are benign vocational training centres, but many outside observers assert that they are little more than prisons where detainees are subjected to political and cultural indoctrination without legal recourse.

As more allegations come to light about the treatment of Uyghurs and other ethnic minorities, China faces mounting pressure from international human rights groups, governments, and academics to provide access to these camps and put an end to any coercive and illegal practices.

Speaking at this important panel on Uyghurs in China and how the world should react are:

Nury A Turkel (Uyghur Human Rights Project)

James Leibold (Associate Professor, Politics and Philosophy, La Trobe University)

Louisa Greve (Uyghur Human Rights Project)

Euan Graham (Executive Director, La Trobe Asia) (chair)

This event is co-hosted by **La Trobe Asia** and AIIA Victoria

1200: Registration; light lunch served **1220:** Panel discussion **1315:** Q&A **1400:** Event concludes

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Members \$10 / Non-members \$20 / Student members free / Student non-members \$5

Please register in advance for this event; light lunch and refreshments served



Sri Lanka: Making Sense of the Constitutional Crisis

Sarinda Perera

Wednesday 12 December, 2018: 6pm for 6.20pm – 7.30pm at Dyason House, 124 Jolimont Road, East Melbourne

As Sri Lankans prepared for the weekend on the night of 26 October, President Maithripala Sirisena sent shockwaves through the country, appointing former president and erstwhile rival Mahinda Rajapaksa as prime minister.



The move was surprising for two reasons.

First, Sirisena had defected from Rajapaksa's administration in which he was health minister to contest and defeat him at the presidential election in January 2015. It was an acrimonious contest and has been a bitter relationship since.

Second, a constitutional amendment he co-championed in 2015 took away presidential power over dismissal of the prime minister and bestowed it with Parliament. Thus, while the President could still appoint a prime minister, the power of dismissal no longer with him meant the office was not vacant to accommodate Rajapaksa. So began a constitutional crisis that has since exacerbated, leaving Sri Lanka with no clear government.

AIIA Victoria is delighted to welcome Sarinda Perera to shed light on this constitutional crisis and to explore possible outcomes.

***Sarinda Perera** has worked professionally as a political analyst on Sri Lanka for over a decade. He has worked with both international and local think-tanks, mostly basing himself in Colombo, where he presently lives. He is currently independent. He is also an advisor to the Colombo-based think tank [Verité Research](#), where he previously led the Advisory Practice. He grew up in Colombo and received his university education in Melbourne. He holds a Bachelor of Arts in Media, Communications and Politics from Swinburne University, and a Masters in International Relations from Monash University.*

Please note that this event will be held under the Chatham House Rule

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Refreshments served



**Australian Institute
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Victoria

After Brexit: Where Next for the UK?

Professor Richard G. Whitman

Thursday 7 February, 2019: 6pm for 6.20pm – 7.30pm at Dyason House, 124 Jolimont Road, East Melbourne

Following two years of negotiations since the Brexit Referendum, the UK is due to leave the European Union on Friday 29 March 2019.

Discussions continue on how the agreement will work in practice, and what post-Brexit relations will look like.



As the first of a three-part series on Brexit, AIIA Victoria is delighted to welcome Professor Richard Whitman, Director of the Global Europe Centre and Professor of Politics and International Relations at the University of Kent, and Associate Fellow at Chatham House.



Professor Richard G. Whitman MA PhD FAcSS is Director of the Global Europe Centre and Professor of Politics and International Relations at the University of Kent. He is also an Associate Fellow and former Head of the Europe Programme at the Royal Institute of International Affairs (Chatham House). His current research interests include Brexit and especially the future foreign and security and defence policies of the UK and the EU. He is the author and editor of eleven books, and has published over sixty articles and book chapters on European integration and UK foreign and security policy. He is a lead editor of the Journal of Common Market Studies (JCMS) – the longest established international academic journal covering the politics and economics of European integration. He was elected as an Academician of the UK Academy of

Social Sciences in 2007 and is the 2017-2018 elected Chair of the British International Studies Association (BISA). He has also been appointed as an Academic Fellow of the European Policy Centre (EPC).

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Refreshments served



The Future of International Solidarity in Global Refugee Protection

Professor Obiora Okafor

Thursday 14 February 2019: 6pm for 6.20pm – 7.30pm at Dyason House, 124 Jolimont Road, East Melbourne

The 1948 Universal Declaration of Human Rights failed to enshrine the right to asylum, speaking only of a right to seek and to enjoy asylum.

A 1957 draft of a Declaration on Territorial Asylum subsequently proposed that the responsibility for granting asylum lie with the international community, as represented by the United Nations “in the spirit of international solidarity”.



The term “international solidarity” has since been invoked regularly, but more in theory than in practice, and the concept is harnessed to serve both the human rights of those fleeing persecution on the one hand, and the sovereignty of nation-states on the other.

To what extent have attempts to mobilise the idea of international solidarity in international law-making been successful, particularly regarding refugees and asylum seekers? What is the role of the UNHCR and its recent work on the Global Compact on Refugees?

AIIA Victoria in conjunction with the **International Legal Studies Research Group of La Trobe Law School** invites you to join Professor Obiora Okafor for his analysis of international solidarity in the context of global refugee protection.

***Professor Obiora Chinedu Okafor** is the UN Independent Expert on Human Rights and International Solidarity and a former Chairperson of the United Nations Human Rights Council Advisory Committee. He has also served as an expert panelist for the United Nations Security Council's Counter-Terrorism Committee and United Nations Working Group on People of African Descent. In addition to consulting for several international organisations, government agencies, parliaments and law firms, Professor Okafor has published extensively in the fields of international human rights law and immigration/refugee law, as well as general public international law (with especial regard to third world approaches to international law).*

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Refreshments served



Australia and France, Global Partners in the Indo-Pacific

H.E. Mr Brendan Berne, Ambassador to France

Monday 4 March, 2019: **12pm for 12.30pm – 1.30pm** at Dyason House, 124 Jolimont Road, East Melbourne

In March 2017, Australia and France signed the Joint Statement of Enhanced Strategic Partnership. The Partnership, renewed again in early 2018 by the Morrison government, promotes joint engagement in the Indo-Pacific region, particularly within the defence, security, intelligence and energy sectors.



These initiatives are on course with the recent announcement of a \$50 billion contract for French shipbuilding firm Naval Group to build 12 submarines in Australia, as well as potential joint research ventures after Australia's Chief Scientist Alan Finkel AO visited Paris recently.

Despite the challenges of ongoing Brexit deliberations, negotiations are well advanced for a Free Trade Agreement (FTA) between Australia and the European Union.

What is the outlook for bilateral relations with France? What greater role can both countries play in the Indo-Pacific region?

AIIA Victoria welcomes H.E. Mr Brendan Berne to share his views.

Please note that this event will be held under the [Chatham House Rule](#)



Brendan Berne is a senior career officer with the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT) and has served as Ambassador to France since October 2017. In Canberra Mr Berne has held a range of positions including Ambassador for Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) and First Assistant Secretary, Investment and Economics Branch Division. He has served overseas as Deputy Head of Mission, Australian Embassy, Seoul and as Deputy Permanent Representative, Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), Paris. Most recently, Mr Berne was Chief of Staff for the Minister for Trade, Tourism and Investment. Prior to joining DFAT, Mr Berne spent several years as an Economist with the Reserve Bank of Australia.

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Light lunch served



Venezuela 2019: Transition from Dictatorship?

Dr Raul Sanchez-Urribarri

Thursday 7 March, 2019: 6pm for 6.20pm – 7.30pm at Dyason House, 124 Jolimont Road, East Melbourne

Venezuela's political crisis is reaching crisis point as tensions rise between the two vying presidents; the incumbent Nicolás Maduro and Juan Guaidó.

On 23 January Guaidó, head of the National Assembly, pronounced himself as acting president, directly challenging Maduro.

This move followed controversial elections in May 2018, widely claimed to be rigged, and during an economic crisis of hyperinflation and resultant mass migration.



The United States, Canada, Australia, the European Parliament and most large Latin American economies have now recognised Guaidó as the legitimate interim president of Venezuela.

AIIA Victoria invites you to hear Dr Raul Sanchez-Urribarri shed light on this ongoing economic and political crisis.

Dr Raul Sanchez-Urribarri is Lecturer (Assistant Professor) in Legal Studies at La Trobe University. He holds a Ph. D. in Political Science from the University of South Carolina (2010); an LL.M. from Cambridge University (1999), and a Law degree from Universidad Católica Andrés Bello (1997). His research spans the intersection between Law and Politics to the operation of different political systems specialising in Latin America and Venezuela in particular. His work has featured in the Journal of Politics, Law and Social Inquiry and The Annual Review of Law and Social Science.

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Asleep at the Wheel?

Australian Economic Engagement in Indonesia

Andrew Parker, Partner & Asia Practice Leader, PwC

Tuesday 12 March, 2019: 6pm for 6.20pm – 7.30pm at Dyason House, 124 Jolimont Road, East Melbourne

It is estimated that by 2025 Asia will produce half of the world's total economic output, and that over the next ten years \$8 trillion will need to be spent on infrastructure to support this growth.



Indonesia's economy is projected to be the 5th largest in purchasing power by 2030. But only a fraction of Australian companies conduct business in Asia, and direct investment in Indonesia remains modest.

The Australian-Indonesian relationship has never been more important, underscored by the fact that Australia's Jakarta Embassy is its largest. Prime Minister Scott Morrison and President Joko Widodo recently declared an upgrading of the two countries' diplomatic ties with the announcement of the Indonesia-Australia Comprehensive Economic Partnership. But is this enough?

What is hindering a stronger Australian-Indonesian relationship? How can bilateral economic relations be improved? And what will it mean for the future of both countries?



Andrew Parker is a Sydney-based Partner at PwC where he leads the Australian Firm's Asia Practice. Andrew joined Price Waterhouse in 1985, became a partner in 1999 and spent 12 years in PwC's London, Moscow and Jakarta offices where he gained considerable experience advising companies investing in foreign (and particularly developing) markets. Andrew has had a long association with Asia having lived and worked in Indonesia and was the leader of PwC's Asian telecoms industry team until 2012, a role he held for nearly 10 years. He is a non-executive director of the Australia-Indonesia Centre at Monash University and China Matters. He is also a member of the Executive Committee of the Australia Japan Business Cooperation Committee and a member of the Advisory Board of the Asia Society. Andrew was the lead author of PwC's landmark report on Australia's lack of business investment in Asia titled **Passing Us By** and is a regular commentator in the media and presenter at forums on Asian trade and investment in Australia and Australian trade and investment in Asia.

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Australia in Ukraine: Steadfast in Support

H.E. Ms Melissa O'Rourke, Ambassador to Ukraine

in conversation with Richard Iron CMG, OBE

Monday 18 March, 2019: 6pm for 6.20pm – 7.30pm at Dyason House, 124 Jolimont Road, East Melbourne

It is five years since the Euromaidan uprising and the replacement of Ukraine's pro-Russia government with one that is markedly pro-Western, pro-NATO and anti-Russian. Moscow's response was swift: annexation of Crimea and support for insurgency in eastern Ukraine amongst the majority ethnic Russian population.



Despite multiple attempted ceasefires, war continues and has claimed some 13,000 lives. In May 2018, Australia and the Netherlands notified Russia that they held it responsible for its role in the downing of flight MH17 causing the loss of 298 innocent lives.

Although whoever wins the 31 March Ukrainian election is likely to maintain a pro-Western reform agenda, Ukraine and Europe remain on a knife edge. Western relations with Russia are heavily impacted by what happens in Ukraine. Australia is a firm supporter of Ukraine's sovereignty and territorial integrity and is assisting the international investigation into the downing of MH17 to bring its perpetrators to justice.

Melissa O'Rourke will discuss with Richard Iron the challenges and aspirations of the government and people of Ukraine, the impact of the Donbas conflict and how it impacts our relationships with Russia and Western Europe.

Please note that this event will be held under the [Chatham House Rule](#).

Melissa O'Rourke is a career officer with the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT) and has served as Ambassador to Ukraine since September 2017. Previously she has held a range of positions in DFAT including Director, United Nations and Commonwealth Section. She was most recently Deputy Head of Mission at the Australian Embassy, Moscow. She has also served overseas in Brussels and Bangkok.

Richard Iron CMG, OBE served 37 years in the British Army and now lives in Melbourne. He has written and lectured widely on our recent experiences of war and was the lead editor of *British Generals in Blair's Wars*. He is now a director of the Australian Institute of International Affairs (Victoria) where he conducts a series of conversations with influential figures.

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**Australian Institute
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Victoria

Brexit as English Nationalism: England, Euroscepticism and the Anglosphere

Dr Ben Wellings, Monash University

Tuesday 26 March, 2019: 6pm for 6.20pm – 7.30pm at Dyason House, 124 Jolimont Road, East Melbourne

Support for Brexit was higher among those who identify as English rather than British, even after accounting for relevant economic factors.

Much of the initial analysis of Brexit concentrated on the populist revolt of those 'left behind' by the benefits of Europeanisation and globalisation.

But it can be viewed too as a logical consequence of an intensification of English nationalism since the 1990s.



Far from being parochial 'Little Englanders', elite Brexiteers sought to lessen the rupture of leaving the European Union by suggesting a return to trade and security alliances with true friends and traditional allies in the Anglosphere.

AIIA Victoria welcomes back Dr Ben Wellings for an analysis of the causes and consequences of the Brexit vote. Placing English nationalism at the explanatory centre of Brexit, he will explain why identity trumped interests in the UK, and how this major re-orientation of British politics and the European regional order will have significant consequences for Australia.



Dr Ben Wellings is Senior Lecturer in Politics and International Relations. He is an expert on Brexit and the politics of nationalism and Euroscepticism in contemporary Europe. Ben Wellings comments regularly on Brexit, English nationalism, Euroscepticism and the politics of the European Union. Before joining Monash University in 2013 he was the Convenor of European Studies at the Australian National University from 2004. His publications include *English Nationalism and Euroscepticism: losing the peace* (Oxford: Peter Lang Ltd, 2012) and *English nationalism, Brexit and the Anglosphere* (Manchester University Press, May 2019)

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US Middle East Policy Under Trump

Michael Doran, Senior Fellow, Hudson Institute

Monday 1st April, 2019: 6pm for 6.20pm – 7.30pm at Dyason House, 124 Jolimont Road, East Melbourne

President Trump's announcement in December 2018 of a withdrawal of US forces from Syria shouldn't necessarily have come as a surprise. Trump has not shied away from his beliefs that extended military operations in the Middle East cost too much for too little return.

But in the intervening months the president's top advisers have seemed to suggest that the decision would not be immediate. An American withdrawal would create a vacuum in the region that Iran – and behind Iran, Russia – would inevitably seek to fill.



While the United States may have grown sceptical of military action, it nevertheless retains a vital interest in building a stable order in the Middle East.

How best should the US reassure and support its traditional allies? What choice does the US have in the region between soft power and hard power?

AIIA Victoria in conjunction with [AIJAC](#) welcomes Michael Doran to discuss the many and complex challenges facing the US in the Middle East.

Michael Doran is a Senior Fellow at the Hudson Institute in Washington, DC. He specialises in Middle East security issues. In the administration of President George W. Bush, Doran served in the White House as a senior director in the National Security Council, where he was responsible for helping to devise and coordinate United States strategies on a variety of Middle East issues, including Arab-Israeli relations and U.S. efforts to contain Iran and Syria. He also served in the Bush administration as a senior advisor in the State Department and a deputy assistant secretary of defence in the Pentagon. Before coming to Hudson, Doran was a Senior Fellow at the Brookings Institution. He has also held teaching positions at NYU, Princeton, and the University of Central Florida. His latest book, [Ike's Gamble: America's Rise to Dominance in the Middle East](#) was published by Free Press in 2016. He appears frequently on television, and has published extensively in *Foreign Affairs*, *The American Interest*, *Commentary*, *Mosaic Magazine*, *The Wall Street Journal*, *The Washington Post*, and *The New York Times*.

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Is the World Numb to Mass Atrocities?

Philippe Boloignon, Human Rights Watch in conversation with Michael Bachelard

Wednesday 3 April, 2019: 12pm for 12:30 -2.00pm at Dyason House, 124 Jolimont Road, East Melbourne

There is no more daunting challenge for the human rights movement than trying to spare civilians from the litany of abuses associated with the raging conflicts of our time, those that are claiming the lives of hundreds of thousands of people and causing millions to flee across international borders.



Where there once was outrage and demands for action, complacency has set in. How did it come to this? How do we re-energise the 'Never Again' movement?

Join Human Rights Watch's Deputy Director for Global Advocacy, Philippe Boloignon, as he discusses the fight against atrocities in countries including Syria, Yemen, and Myanmar, and Human Rights Watch's advocacy with the United Nations and how it can be effective.

Presented in partnership with [Human Rights Watch](#)

Philippe Boloignon is the Deputy Director for Global Advocacy at Human Rights Watch (HRW), a role he assumed in January 2016. He assists in designing and implementing HRW's advocacy strategies worldwide and in overseeing the organisation's advocacy response to crisis situations. Boloignon joined HRW as United Nations Director in August 2010 and has traveled extensively to conflict zones, including most recently in Burundi, South Sudan, the CAR and Mali. Boloignon is the author of *Guantanamo: Le baignoire du bout du monde (La Découverte, 2004)*. He is a graduate of the Institut d'Etudes Politiques (IEP) de Bordeaux and CUEJ, the journalism school of Strasbourg. Philippe is regularly interviewed and quoted in global press (recent interview on the Rohingya crisis for CNN [here](#)). He recently published this essay "[Atrocities as the New Normal: Time to Re-Energize the 'Never Again' Movement](#)".

Michael Bachelard is the Gold Walkley Award-winning editor of *The Age* investigations unit and the foreign editor of *The Age* and *Sydney Morning Herald*. He has travelled recently to Iraq and across the Middle East to cover Islamic State and the refugee crisis. He is the author of two books.

12pm: Light lunch **12.30pm:** "In Conversation" **1.15pm:** Q&A **1.45pm:** Coffee/tea **2pm:** Event concludes

RSVP: **TEL:** (03) 9654 7271 or [BOOK ONLINE](#)

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Members \$30 / Premium Members \$15 / Non-members \$40 / Student members free / Student non-members \$15

Light lunch served



**Australian Institute
of International Affairs**
Victoria

Why China? Cambodia's Foreign Policy Challenges in the Next 20 Years

Ou Virak, Founder of Future Forum with Sue Coffey

Wednesday 10th April, 2019: 6pm for 6.20pm – 7.30pm at Dyason House, 124 Jolimont Road, East Melbourne

Prime Minister Hun Sen has governed Cambodia for 34 years. From late 2017, following his arrest of the main opposition leader, deregistration of the main opposition party, and closure of independent media Cambodia has become a one-party state.



In a country where three quarters of the population was born after the Khmer Rouge regime of the 1970s, what is the legitimacy of the country's leaders? What is the nature of Cambodia's relationship with China, and with the West?

AIIA Victoria welcomes Ou Virak and Sue Coffey to discuss the prospects for Cambodia's future.

***Ou Virak** is Founder and Executive Director of [Future Forum](#), an independent think tank established in 2015 to generate public policy research for a new Cambodia. He is a former President and Executive Director of the Cambodian Centre for Human Rights. Ou Virak also leads the Alliance for Freedom of Expression in Cambodia (AFEC) and until 2013 was the Vice Chairman of the Cambodian NGO Working Group for Establishing a National Human Rights Commission. He has received the Reebok Human Rights Award for his advocacy of freedom of expression in Cambodia.*

***Sue Coffey** is the author of **Seeking Justice in Cambodia: Human Rights Defenders Speak Out** (Melbourne University Press, November 2018). Copies will be for sale on the night. Through first person interviews, the book tells the story of Cambodia's human rights movement since 1991. Sue Coffey has worked in Cambodia for the Australian Government's overseas aid program, and as communications advisor to the Myanmar Government's education reform program. Prior to these roles, Sue has held extensive senior advisory and policy roles in the Victorian government, peak bodies and not-for-profit organisations.*

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Refreshments served



**Australian Institute
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Victoria

Cuban Missile Crisis 2.0?

Assoc/Prof Alexey D. Muraviev, Curtin University

Wednesday 1 May, 2018: 6pm for 6.20pm – 7.30pm at Dyason House, 124 Jolimont Road, East Melbourne

History was made the day in 1987 that US President Ronald Reagan and Soviet General Secretary Mikhail Gorbachev signed the Intermediate-Range Nuclear Forces Treaty (INF), paving a path for peace by means of nuclear arms reduction.



Fast-forward thirty years, and following February's decision by President Trump to withdraw from the Treaty, Russia's President Vladimir Putin officially confirmed that Moscow would also withdraw.

The decision by both superpowers to effectively terminate one of the core nuclear forces reductions agreements, and their apparent incapacity to overcome the current stalemate in bilateral strategic relations, raises a new set of strategic concerns about future international security.

Will Washington and Moscow be able to commence formal bilateral consultations about the new INF? Will other countries that possess intermediate range missile capabilities (China, India, Pakistan, North Korea, Israel and others) be willing to come to the party? Or will the international community relive the drama and tension of 1962, when a game of geostrategic chess placed the world on the brink of nuclear war?

AIIA Victoria is delighted to welcome back Dr Alexey Muraviev.



Dr Alexey D. Muraviev is Associate Professor of National Security and Strategic Studies at Curtin University, Perth, Western Australia. He is the founder and Director of the Strategic Flashlight forum on national security and strategy at Curtin. Between 2013 and 2017 Alexey was Head of Department of Social Sciences and Security Studies at Curtin. He has published widely on matters of national and international security. His research interests include problems of

modern maritime power, contemporary defence and strategic policy, Russia's strategic and defence policy, Russia as a Pacific power, transnational terrorism, Australian national security, and other. His latest publication is *Australia Europe Security and Defence Cooperation in the Twenty First Century* in *So Distant, So Close' Australia and the European Union in the 21st Century* (Bruno Mascitelli and Bruce Wilson (eds)). Alexey is a member of the Australian Member Committee, Council for Security Cooperation in the Asia-Pacific region (AU-CSCAP); member of the International Institute for Strategic Studies, London; non-residential fellow, Sea Power Centre Australia (Royal Australian Navy), member of Russia-NATO Experts Group; member of the executive advisory board, CIVSEC 2018 international congress and exposition; member of the Advisory Board, Australia Public Network, member of the Australia, Asia Pacific Institute at Curtin, and other organisations and think tanks. In 2011, Alexey was the inaugural scholar-in residence at the Australian Strategic Policy Institute.

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Refreshments served



Indonesia and Australia: Prospects and Opportunities

Ms Spica A. Tutuhaturunewa, Consul General of Indonesia

Thursday 2nd May, 2019: 6pm for 6.20pm – 7.30pm at Dyason House, 124 Jolimont Road, East Melbourne

Indonesia – the world's third largest democracy with the world's largest Muslim population – is one of Australia's most important bilateral relationships.

It is predicted that in less than a decade and a half, Indonesia will be one of the world's five biggest economies, with four out of the five biggest economies being situated within Asia.



At present, Australia's investment in Indonesia's economy remains modest, but the recent signing of the Indonesia-Australia Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (IA-CEPA) signals a likely increase in economic activity. Both countries have indicated their desire to build solid foundations through greater economic investment and enhanced people-to-people contact.

Ahead of its Study Tour to Indonesia in June, AIIA Victoria welcomes Consul General Ms Spica Tutuhaturunewa to discuss the growing bilateral relationship between Indonesia and Australia.

Ms Spica A. Tutuhaturunewa was appointed Consul General of Indonesia for Victoria and Tasmania in February 2018. Prior to her appointment as Consul General, Ms Tutuhaturunewa worked for the Indonesian Ministry of Foreign Affairs as the Director for Junior Diplomatic School, and the Deputy Director for Transnational Organized Crimes, Directorate of International Security and Disarmament, at Directorate General of Multilateral Affairs. Ms Tutuhaturunewa has worked as First and Third Secretary for Indonesian Embassies in Vienna and Washington DC, and after a long personal history with Australia is now based in Melbourne.

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Refreshments served



**Australian Institute
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Victoria

“Empire of the Winds” - The Global Role of Asia's Great Archipelago

Philip Bowring

Monday 6 May, 2019: 6pm for 6.20pm – 7.30pm at Dyason House, 124 Jolimont Road, East Melbourne

‘Maritime Southeast Asia’ is the world’s largest archipelago and has, for centuries, been a vital cultural and trading hub.

These waters have long been primarily the domain of Asia’s Austronesian-speaking peoples, now numbering 400 million. Their boatbuilding, seafaring and trading traditions have been uniquely important as a corridor connecting East Asia to India, the Middle East, Europe and Africa.

Awareness of these is just beginning to sprout again as the West’s impact diminishes and new external challenges emerge.

In his new book, *Empire of the Winds - The Global Role of Asia's Great Archipelago* (I.B.Tauris/Bloomsbury 2019), Philip Bowring provides a history of the world’s largest and most important archipelago and its adjacent coasts. He tells the story of the peoples and lands located at this crucial maritime and cultural crossroads, from its birth following the last Ice Age to today, with a particular emphasis on events before 1600. In the process it provides balance to Euro- and Sino-centric views which are very relevant to issues today.

Copies of the book will be on sale at the event.



Philip Bowring is a journalist who has been based in Asia since 1973 writing on regional financial and political issues as a correspondent for the *Financial Times*, in various roles with the *Far Eastern Economic Review* (he was Editor from 1988 to 1992), and as a columnist for the *International Herald Tribune* from 1992 to 2011. He has been a columnist for the *South China Morning Post* since the mid-1990s and contributor to various other publications including website [Asia Sentinel](#) of which he was a founder. Prior to 1973 he worked as a journalist in Africa, in Sydney and London. He has an MA in History from Cambridge University, where he is a Fellow Commoner of St Catharine's College.

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Refreshments served



India's Elections: Whoever Wins, Challenges Await

Michael Moignard, Fellow of the Australia India Institute

Monday 13 May, 2019: 6pm for 6.20pm – 7.30pm at Dyason House, 124 Jolimont Road, East Melbourne

Elections for India's Parliament, the Lok Sabha, are taking place from 11 April to 19 May, with results due to be announced by 23 May.

Despite India's growing economy, the incoming leader is faced with the challenge of boosting economic growth to match a growing demand for jobs due to the rapid expansion of an already huge population.



Current Prime Minister and leader of the BJP Party Narendra Modi, and Rahul Gandhi, leader of the Congress Party will face off on how best to resolve Indians' growing lack of confidence in the economy, discontent amongst the rural population, high youth unemployment, progression of the caste agenda, and nationalism in the face of a growing territorial threat from Pakistan.

What are the issues the winner will have to deal with?

AIIA Victoria welcomes Michael Moignard to discuss the economy, social policies, the role of youth and education, and India's role in its neighbourhood.

Michael Moignard spent 35 years as an Australian public servant working in trade and resources policy, and trade promotion. Michael spent close to 7 years in India, as Senior Trade Commissioner for South Asia with the Australian High Commission in New Delhi. He also served with the Australian Trade Commission (Austrade) in New York, Santiago de Chile, Manila, and Singapore. Michael was made a Fellow of the Australia India Institute (AII) in February 2013. He has had two articles published by AII on the Australia-India Trade and Investment relationship. In September 2014, he became a Director of EastWest Academy Pty Ltd, a small firm involved in assisting Australian business do business in India. Michael is also involved in Ryder Cheshire Australia, and is President of its Victorian chapter. Michael was a member of the Australia India Business Council Victoria Committee from July 2016 to June 2018.

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Refreshments served



The Changing Global Health Landscape

Associate Professor Helen Evans AO FAIIA

Thursday 23 May, 2019: 6pm for 6.20pm – 7.30pm at Dyason House, 124 Jolimont Road, East Melbourne

As a complex global phenomenon, health acts as a fundamental driver of sustainable growth, contributing to stability and security.

Economic shifts, demography, burden of diseases, movement of people, climate and institutional changes are all aspects that affect global health security.

Currently the Pacific region is burdened by the threat of possible new pandemics, of re-emerging diseases, increasing antimicrobial resistance, non-communicable diseases such as diabetes and the impacts of climate change on health. The Australian Government's launch in 2017 of the Health Security Initiative for the Indo-Pacific region committed five years of funding towards supporting strengthening preventative measures and national and international outbreak responses.



But what are the implications for our region of these challenges? What does it mean for regional health security?

In 2017 Helen Evans was created a fellow of the Australian Institute of International Affairs. AIIA Victoria welcomes Helen Evans to deliver her Fellow's Address, where she will be presented with her Fellow's Award by Zara Kimpton OAM, AIIA National Vice President.



Helen Evans AO FAIIA is Associate Professor (Hon) at the Nossal Institute for Global Health at the University of Melbourne. She is a board member of the Fred Hollows Foundation, the Burnet Institute, and the Global Health Alliance Melbourne, as well as a member of the Technical Evaluation Review Group of the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria and the Technical Reference Group to the Government's Regional Health Security Initiative. Helen Evans has previously served as Deputy CEO at Gavi, The Vaccine Alliance based in Geneva. Prior to joining Gavi, she served as Deputy Executive Director at the Global Fund to Fight AIDS,

Tuberculosis and Malaria, also based in Geneva. She has a depth of experience in national and global health policy and strategy development, infectious diseases and working in public private partnerships to deliver results. In the early 1990s Helen managed the National Communicable Diseases Program in the Australian Department of Health. For the seven years prior to moving to Geneva she headed up the Australian Government Office for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health.

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Refreshments served



Strangers Next Door? Australia and Indonesia after Elections

Professor Tim Lindsey AO FAIIA

Tuesday 28 May, 2019: 6pm for 6.20pm – 7.30pm at Dyason House, 124 Jolimont Road, East Melbourne

Australia and Indonesia have a turbulent and often unpredictable relationship that reflects their huge demographic, economic, cultural and historical differences.

Despite all its domestic challenges, including poor governance, protectionism, inadequate infrastructure, growing religious intolerance and faltering reform efforts, Indonesia is rising, and set to become an economic power of global significance.



This presents a vital challenge that Australia struggles to deal with. With new governments due to be formed in both countries after elections in April and May, this Fellow's Address will examine the key political and social developments in Australia's giant near-neighbour and the prospects for the bilateral relationship in the years ahead.

In 2018 Tim Lindsey was created a fellow of the Australian Institute of International Affairs. AIIA Victoria welcomes Tim Lindsey to deliver his Fellow's Address, where he will be presented with his Fellow's Award by Zara Kimpton OAM, AIIA National Vice President.



Professor Tim Lindsey AO FAIIA is one of Australia's leading experts on Indonesian law, and has advised governments, business, international organisations, courts and legal practitioners in Indonesia and Australia. He is Malcolm Smith Professor of Asian Law, Redmond Barry Distinguished Professor and Director of the Centre for Indonesian Law, Islam and Society at the Melbourne Law School. He has won national and university teaching awards, and was an ARC Federation Fellow from 2006 to 2011.

Tim is a member of the Victorian Bar and was the long-serving Chair of the Australia Indonesia Institute until 2016. His more than 100 publications include Indonesia: Law and Society; Islam, Law and the State in Southeast Asia (three volumes); The Indonesian Constitution; Drugs Law and Practice in Southeast Asia; Religion, Law and Intolerance in Indonesia; Indonesian Law; and Strangers Next Door: Indonesia and Australia in the Asian Century. He is a founder and an executive editor of The Australian Journal of Asian Law.

RSVP: **TEL:** (03) 9654 7271 or [BOOK ONLINE](#)

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Refreshments served



**Australian Institute
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Victoria

Protection of Civilians in UN Peace Operations: Progress, Problems and Prospects

Dr Charles T. Hunt

Wednesday 29 May, 2019: 6pm for 6.20pm – 7.30pm at Dyason House, 124 Jolimont Road, East Melbourne

This year marks twenty years since peacekeepers in Sierra Leone were first mandated to 'protect civilians from the threat of physical violence.' Since then, the Protection of Civilians (PoC) has moved from the periphery to becoming a centre of gravity for peace operations, and for the whole UN system.

While media headlines dwell on the failures and inaction, research has shown that peace operations have contributed to a reduction in civilian victimisation, a decrease in conflict-related violence and the likelihood of conflict reignition.



Nevertheless, peacekeepers on the ground continue to face significant challenges. As UN peace operations are commonly deployed in contexts where there is little or no 'peace to keep' they are required to confront complex and shifting threats to civilians. Much remains to be done to deliver on this cardinal obligation.

To mark the International Day of UN Peacekeepers – May 29 – Dr Charles Hunt will draw on recent research trips to UN peace operations in Mali, the Democratic Republic of the Congo and South Sudan – the three biggest missions – to explain where and how peacekeepers are contributing to the protection of civilians, the major impediments to achieving more, what is currently being done to tackle these and what else can be done to improve the impact of the UN's protection efforts.

Dr Charles T. Hunt is Vice-Chancellor's Senior Research Fellow and ARC DECRA Fellow at the Social & Global Studies Centre at RMIT University, Melbourne, and honorary Senior Research Fellow at the Asia Pacific Centre for the Responsibility to Protect. His research is focused on the protection of civilians in armed conflict, UN peace operations and peacebuilding in post-colonial states. Charles has worked with the Australian government assessing their role in peace operations and performed consultancy roles with the United Nations, the African Union, the Economic Community of West African States, and several international humanitarian NGOs. He has worked extensively conducting field research in South Sudan, Mali, Liberia, Sierra Leone, Cote d'Ivoire, Ghana, Nigeria, Uganda, Tanzania, Kenya, Ethiopia, Rwanda, the Democratic Republic of Congo and Zimbabwe. He is author and editor of five books including UN Peace Operations and International Policing (Routledge, 2015), Exploring Peace Formation (Routledge, 2018) and Regionalism and Human Protection (Brill, 2018).

RSVP: TEL: (03) 9654 7271 or [BOOK ONLINE](#)

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Refreshments served



LA TROBE
UNIVERSITY



Australian Institute
of International Affairs
Victoria

2019 Shangri-La Dialogue (The Asian Regional Security Summit)

Dr Euan Graham, Executive Director, La Trobe Asia

Thursday 13 June, 2019: 6pm for 6.20pm – 7.30pm at Dyason House, 124 Jolimont Road, East Melbourne

The Shangri-La Dialogue takes place between 30 May and 2 June in Singapore.

It is Asia's premier defence summit, at which ministers, military chiefs and leaders from across the region and beyond engage in open debate and bilateral talks aimed at enhancing their collaboration in response to the Indo-Pacific's diverse security problems.



China's Defence Minister General Wei Fenghe will address the summit — the first time in eight years that Beijing has sent such a high-level official to the annual security gathering – as will US Acting Secretary of Defense Patrick M. Shanahan.

What are the key security challenges facing the Indo-Pacific? What is the US administration's strategy for the region? How does China view its role?

Dr Euan Graham, Executive Director of La Trobe Asia and expert in maritime security is attending the Dialogue; we invite you to join him on his return to hear his insights.



Dr Euan Graham joined La Trobe Asia as Executive Director in 2018 from the Lowy Institute, where he was Director, International Security Program. Euan has specialised in Asian security and international relations throughout a varied career spanning consultancy, think tanks, professional diplomacy and academia. He obtained his doctorate from the Australian National University in 2003, before joining the UK Foreign and Commonwealth Office as a Senior Research Officer. He left the UK in 2011, joining the S. Rajaratnam School of International Studies, in Singapore, where he was a senior fellow in Maritime Security, teaching courses to postgraduate students and senior military officers. He is regularly quoted in the Australian and international media on regional defence and security issues.

RSVP: TEL: (03) 9654 7271 or [BOOK ONLINE](#)

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Refreshments served

Re-imagining Australia's East Coast

Martine Letts FAIIA, CEO Committee for Melbourne

Tuesday 18 June, 2019: 6pm for 6.20pm – 7.30pm at Dyason House, 124 Jolimont Road, East Melbourne

As integrated sets of cities and their surrounding suburban hinterlands, across which labour and capital can be reallocated at a very low cost, **megaregions** are now considered by many as the 'central competitive unit'.

Transcending geographic and jurisdictional boundaries, megaregions are characterised by interlocking economic systems, common transportation systems, as well as shared natural resources. They are becoming increasingly prominent and placing an ever-increasing premium on a country's innovative capacity.



In a ground-breaking study by Richard Florida titled *The Rise of the Mega-Region*, the world's top 40 megaregions make up only 18% of the global population but produce 66% of economic activity and 86% of patented innovation. They are hyper-competitive units, and in the decades to come many sectors of Australia's economy will increasingly struggle to compete on the global stage if Australia cannot effectively leverage the benefits that megaregions bring.

What would effective collaboration and connectivity between cities and regions along Australia's eastern seaboard mean? How can it enhance Australia's engagement with the Indo-Pacific region? And how can Australia better compete in an increasingly interdependent, fast-changing world?

The ultimate vision resulting from greater collaboration along Australia's east coast is the creation of an **Australian East Coast Megaregion**. It's a big, ambitious idea, but one which could help navigate Australia through the twenty-first century with vigour and confidence.

In 2016 Martine Letts was recognised as a Fellow of the Australian Institute of International Affairs. At this Fellow's Address she will be presented with her Fellow's Award by Zara Kimpton OAM, AIIA National Vice President.



Martine Letts FAIIA is the Chief Executive Officer of the Committee for Melbourne. Martine has extensive experience within the government, non-profit and international policy sectors, providing high-level expertise in public policy development, formulation and promotion both in Australia and internationally. Martine joined the Committee in March 2016 after serving as Chief Executive Officer of the Australia China Business Council (ACBC), where she led the development of the organisation's national strategy. Prior to her role at the ACBC, Martine was Deputy Director of the Lowy Institute for International Policy, where she spearheaded the organisation's business and organisational development. As Secretary-General of the Australian Red Cross (ARC) from 2001-2004, based at its national headquarters in Melbourne, she worked on a national transformation strategy to help the ARC improve its delivery of community and relief services across Australia and globally. Martine was a senior Australian diplomat for 17 years. She served as Australian Ambassador to Argentina, Uruguay and Paraguay, Deputy Head of Mission and Australian Deputy Permanent Representative to the International Atomic Energy Agency in Vienna and was an adviser to Foreign Minister Gareth Evans from 1992-1994. She served on the Australian National University Council from 2004-2014 and was a Councillor on the Council on Australia Latin America Relations (COALAR) for ten years. She is a member of the Australian Volunteers International board. She holds a Bachelor of Arts Degree (Political Science and German) from the ANU.

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Members \$20 / Non-members \$30 / Student members free / Student non-members \$15 Refreshments served



Australian
National
University



Australian Institute
of International Affairs
Victoria

An Evening with Jean-Marie Guéhenno, introduced by Gareth Evans

Thursday 27 June 2019: 6pm for 6.20pm – 7.30pm at Dyason House, 124 Jolimont Road, East Melbourne

AIIA Victoria in conjunction with the Australian National University (ANU) invites you to a unique opportunity to hear from our special international speaker: peacekeeping, global governance and transnational security threats expert Jean-Marie Guéhenno.



Jean-Marie Guéhenno is currently a Senior Advisor at the Centre for Humanitarian Dialogue, a member of the UN Secretary-General's High-Level Advisory Board on Mediation and since 2014, has been a Distinguished Fellow with the Brookings Institute. He was the Special Envoy of the UN Secretary General for the funding of the African Union Mission in Somalia (AMISOM) and from 2014–17, he was the President and CEO of the International Crisis Group. From 2000–08 he was Undersecretary-General for peacekeeping operations at the UN, where he led the biggest expansion of peacekeeping in the history of the United Nations. Before joining the United Nations, Guéhenno had a distinguished career in the French government and in the private sector. He was the director of policy planning in the French Ministry of Foreign Affairs from 1989 to 1993. He has also been ambassador to the Western European Union, and chairman of the French Institute of Higher Defense Studies.



Professor the Hon Gareth Evans AC QC FASSA FAIIA is Chancellor and an Honorary Professorial Fellow at the Australian National University. He was a Cabinet Minister in the Hawke and Keating Labor Governments from 1983-96, in the posts of Attorney General, Minister for Resources and Energy, Minister for Transport and Communications and - from 1988-96 - Foreign Minister. From 2000 to 2009 he was President and CEO of the International Crisis Group.

AIIA Victoria gratefully acknowledges its partnership with ANU.

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Members \$20 / UNAA Member \$20 / Non-members \$30 / Student members free / Student non-members \$15

Refreshments served



The Young Professionals Forum (YPF) presents:

Think like a Pro to Network like a Pro

In anticipation of the AIIA Victoria International Careers Conference 2018, the YPF invites students and young professionals to our 'How to Network' evening. In a seemingly talent-saturated environment, gaining a competitive edge can feel overwhelming. Knowing when and how to take advantage of opportunities through networking is becoming increasingly vital to developing your career. This workshop will prepare you to engage successfully with the experts and professionals at the Conference.



Thursday 9 August, 2018: 6pm for 6.20pm – 8pm: Refreshments served

Dyason House, 124 Jolimont Road, East Melbourne

Student members free | Student non-members \$5 | Members \$20 | Non-members \$30

Learn from the Experts

We welcome back **Georgia Ellis**, founder of [Blue Chip Minds](#), to share her expertise on growing your personal mindset, enabling you to become a skilful networker. Building on this knowledge there will be activities to focus on personal development by identifying your key attributes, as well as targeted advice in line with your stage of academic or professional progression.

What to Expect

This workshop aims to develop your skills and confidence, assisting you to engage effectively with potential mentors, employers, and leading professionals in the future. Each exercise will help you:

- Discover the three levels of active listening
- Become self-aware and mindful about how you present yourself
- Learn how to express yourself quickly and concisely
- Identify areas for personal and professional development

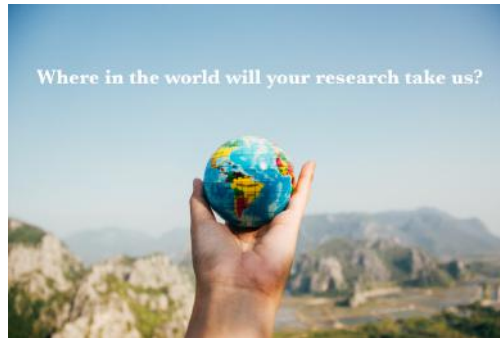
RSVP: **TEL:** (03) 9654 7271 or **BOOK ONLINE:** www.internationalaffairs.org.au/vic

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The Young Professionals Forum presents:
Tomorrow's Research Today

Monday, 22 October, 2018: 6pm for 6.15pm – 8pm: Refreshments served
Dyason House, 124 Jolimont Road, East Melbourne



AIIA Victoria's **Young Professionals Forum**, **The Monash Masters of International Relations Student Association (MISRA)** and **The University of Melbourne Postgraduate International Relations Organisation (MPIRO)** are joining forces to bring you Tomorrow's Research Today.

Seven individuals will present their research from their respective Masters of International Relations research project.

Areas of focus:

Climate Change
International Space Governance
Internet Security and Cyberterrorism
Energy Governance

White Radical Extremism in an International Society
Post-Civil War Lebanon

Research topics:

- The Province of All Mankind: A Theoretical Analysis of the Outer Space's International Regime
- "Welcome to the biggest racially awake town meeting of the White family": Why join Stormfront?
- Australian involvement in global internet governance amid a cyberterrorism framework
- Right-Wing Narratives of the Lone Wolf Self
- European Energy Governance, the Energy security dilemma and European regulatory and economic power
- China as a New Global Climate Leader?: A Framing analysis of China's external climate messaging
- Lebanon: Stabilised Instability

We look forward to seeing the leaders of tomorrow present their research about tomorrow's trends, issues, problems and potential solutions.

RSVP: **TEL:** (03) 9654 7271 or **BOOK ONLINE**

Student members free / Student non-members \$5 / Members \$20 / Non-members \$30

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**Australian Institute
of International Affairs**
Victoria

Young Professionals Forum Annual Trivia Night

Wednesday 28 November 2018: 6pm for 6.30pm – 9.30pm



Think your knowledge of international affairs, global news, geography and history is up to scratch?

Why not join us for a drink, a laugh and test your knowledge of world events and personalities at our annual YPF Trivia Night.

Register to secure your spot. Tables will be organised on the night, so grab a group of friends, or just come on your own!

All are welcome!

Please note different location for this event:

Melbourne Central Lion Hotel, Level 3, Melbourne Central, 211 La Trobe Street

RSVP: TEL: (03) 9654 7271 or [BOOK ONLINE](#)

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Registration starts 6pm Cash bar for drinks and bar-snacks

Members \$5 / Non-members \$10



Australian Government

Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade
Victoria State Office



United Nations
Association
of Australia
Victorian
Division



Australian Institute
of International Affairs
Victoria

International Careers Information Evening

Tuesday 5 March, 2019: 5.30pm– 7.00pm at Dyason House, 124 Jolimont Road, East Melbourne

Interested in an international career and want to know how to get there? Looking for a career in international relations, trade or diplomacy, representing your country at the UN or working to promote Australia's overseas interests?

Join **DFAT's Victoria State Office** and the **United Nations Association of Victoria (UNAAV)** hosted by **AIIA's Young Professionals Forum (YPF)** at an event designed to give you an edge in building your professional and international career opportunities.



Serving diplomats, State Government representatives and a former Ambassador to the UN will share their experiences and offer first-hand advice on how to establish your career pathways.

Hear from:

- United Nations Association of Australia Victoria Board Member **Carlisle Richardson** will be speaking of opportunities and pathways as a former Ambassador to the UN and UN staff member
- DFAT representative **Merinda Petersen** to cover DFAT Fellowship experience, internships, pathways to UN and international careers such as DFAT and Red Cross
- **Stewart McBride** DFAT Graduate Recruitment Outreach team
- **Laura Hughes**, Consulate General of Japan to discuss local-hire opportunities for research, public diplomacy and cultural diplomacy roles in Melbourne's 70+ Consulates
- **Jessica Marsh** speaking about State Government and NGO opportunities with an international focus

RSVP: **TEL:** (03) 9654 7271 or [BOOK ONLINE](#)

AIIA Victoria gratefully acknowledges the Walter Mangold Trust Fund for its ongoing support of our young members

AIIA Student members free / Student non-members \$5 / AIIA and UNAA Members \$10 / Non-members \$15

Light refreshments served



Australian Institute
of International Affairs
Victoria



Australian Government

Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade
Victoria State Office



United Nations
Association
of Australia
Victorian
Division



International Careers Information Evening

Wednesday 20 March, 2019: 5.30pm– 7.00pm at Dyason House, 124 Jolimont Road, East Melbourne

Interested in an international career and want to know how to get there? Looking for a career in international relations, trade or diplomacy, representing your country at the UN or working to promote Australia's overseas interests?

Join **DFAT's Victoria State Office** and **Graduate Recruitment Outreach Group**, **United Nations Association of Victoria (UNAAV)** and **Global Victoria**, hosted by **AIIA's Young Professionals Forum (YPF)** at an event designed to give you an edge in building your professional and international career opportunities.



Serving diplomats, State Government representatives and a former Ambassador to the UN will share their experiences and offer first-hand advice on how to establish your career pathways.

Hear from:

- United Nations Association of Australia Victoria Board Member **Carlisle Richardson** discuss opportunities and pathways as former Ambassador to the UN and UN staff member
- **DFAT Victoria State Office representative** to cover DFAT Fellowship experience, internships, pathways to UN and DFAT international careers
- **Stewart McBride, DFAT Graduate Recruitment Outreach Group**
- A representative of **local Consulate staff** to discuss local-hire opportunities for research, public diplomacy and cultural diplomacy roles in Melbourne's 70+ Consulates
- A representative of **Global Victoria** speaking about State Government opportunities with an international focus
- **NGO Consultant** to discuss NGO opportunities in climate change, gender etc

RSVP: **TEL:** (03) 9654 7271 or [BOOK ONLINE](#)

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Light refreshments served

Partnerships for a Brighter Tomorrow

Co-hosted by the AIIA YPF and the UNAA YP

Wednesday 26 June, 2019: 6pm – 7.30pm at Dyason House, 124 Jolimont Road, East Melbourne

In a speech given at the World Economic Forum in January 2019, UN Secretary General Antonio Guterres made the following critical observation about the state of the world:

"If I had to select one sentence to describe the state of the world, I would say we are in a world in which global challenges are more and more integrated, and the responses are more and more fragmented, and if this is not reversed, it's a recipe for disaster."

Movement of people, climate change, digitisation, trade, and the international economy all present challenges of a global nature which require coordinated global responses.

Tackling these issues in a coordinated way is at the heart of [The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development](#), adopted by all United Nations Member States in 2015. The 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) are an urgent call for action by all countries — developed and developing — in a global partnership.

SDG 17 *Partnerships for the Goals* specifically focuses on working together, seeking to strengthen global partnerships to support and achieve the ambitious targets of the 2030 Agenda, bringing together national governments, the international community, civil society, the private sector and other actors.

But how can we bring together people who appear to be increasingly divided, be it along geographical, ideological, national, religious or cultural boundaries?

AIIA Victoria YPF and the UNAA YP would like to invite you for a night of networking and celebration of partnerships. Hear from:

Carlisle Richardson is an International Relations expert with particular focus on the UN, Development, including Sustainable Development, and Small Island Developing States. He has served as Ambassador of St. Kitts and Nevis to the United Nations, and as an Economic Affairs Officer of the United Nations. At the UN, he was involved in the negotiations for establishing the landmark Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and the preparations for the Paris Agreement on Climate Change.

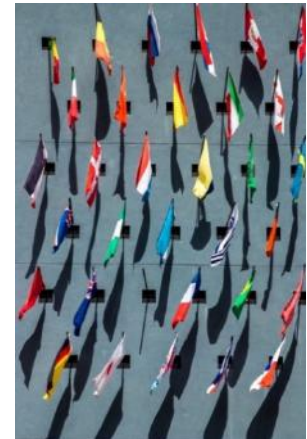
Pera Wells is a former Australian diplomat whose postings to Africa, the United Nations in New York, the Commonwealth Secretariat in London and to India inspired her to think deeply about how people in Australia, living in a multicultural, ethnically diversified, essentially egalitarian, democratic country on one continent, could help to start a conversation about the possibility of creating a global parliament, now that we have the communication benefits and capabilities of the World Wide Web. Her last appointment was as the Secretary-General of the World Federation of United Nations Associations....so she brings to the conversation the hands-on experience of running a global civil society organisation as well as a sense of pragmatic idealism about the future possibilities for democratic and inclusive global governance.

RSVP: TEL: (03) 9654 7271 or [BOOK ONLINE](#)

AIIA Victoria gratefully acknowledges the Walter Mangold Trust Fund for its ongoing support of our young members

AIIA Student members \$0 / AIIA and UNAA Members \$10 / Non-members \$30 / Student non-members \$15

Refreshments served





14th International Careers Conference

Friday 31 August 2018: 8.00am – 5.30pm at The Pavilion, Arts Centre, 100 St Kilda Rd, Southbank

Join us and be globally informed, connected and involved!

Why you should attend:

- Gain insights into the opportunities and realities of a variety of international careers
- Hear from professionals in the private, government and not-for-profit sectors
- Directly engage with speakers during Q&A sessions and small group workshops
- Network with like-minded others
- Receive constructive feedback on your CV from the La Trobe University Careers Centre
- Learn about scholarship opportunities from a range of providers

About the ICC

AIIA Victoria's 14th International Careers Conference is a full-day event structured around a keynote address, and panels covering government, international business, and international agencies/NGOs; and a series of career-specific workshops.

Keynote: Tony Wheeler AO FAIIA - Co-founder, Lonely Planet

Panel Sessions: Government, International Business, International Agencies/NGOs

Career-specific workshops covering:

Foreign Affairs and Diplomacy
Victoria and International Trade
International Law
Defence and Security
Refugees and Human Rights
Media

International Business & Technology
Entrepreneurship
Youth Not-for-Profit
NGO Sector
Cyber and Intelligence
Academia/Think Tank/Research Institutions



Pre-payment is essential by 27 August as seating is limited - register online

AIIA Victoria is honoured to acknowledge **La Trobe University** as the 2018 Major Sponsor and to be supported by the **National Security College** of the Australian National University.



LA TROBE
UNIVERSITY

Earlybird pricing to **5 Aug:**

Student: \$60
Standard \$85

Regular pricing **6-27 Aug:**

Student: \$85
Standard: \$100



Australian
National
University

NATIONAL SECURITY
COLLEGE

BOOK ONLINE: www.internationalaffairs.org.au/vic Enquiries contact: aiiavicc@gmail.com

AIIA Victoria gratefully acknowledges the Walter Mangold Trust Fund for its ongoing support of our young members

Morning tea and lunch provided



The 12th Sir Zelman Cowen Oration & Dinner

Tuesday 23 October, 2018: 6.30pm – 10.30pm at the Australian Club, 110 William Street, Melbourne

AIIA Victoria has pleasure in inviting you to a convivial evening at the Australian Club. Come and meet old and new friends, mingle with diplomats, veterans and members of the international community in Melbourne, and continue the tradition of acknowledging the contribution of Sir Zelman Cowen.

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



The 12th Sir Zelman Cowen Oration will be delivered in the presence of Lady Cowen by

The Hon. Dr Brendan Nelson AO, Director of the Australian War Memorial

Centenary of Armistice: Honouring Service and Leadership

The Orator will be introduced by **the Hon Ted Baillieu**, and the Appreciation given by **Major General (Ret'd) David McLachlan AO**.



The Hon. Dr Brendan Nelson AO BMBS FRACP (Hon) FAMA FRSN commenced as Director of the Australian War Memorial on 17 December 2012. Prior to this, he was the Australian Ambassador to Belgium, Luxembourg, the European Union and NATO in 2010–12. Brendan Nelson served in the Federal Parliament from 1996, with roles including Minister for Education, and for Defence during the conflict in Iraq and Afghanistan. He served as leader of the Opposition in 2007-8, and prior to this was the head of the Australian Medical Association.

You are warmly invited to pre-dinner drinks in the Ellis Rowan Room from 6.30pm, and 3-course dinner in the Main Dining Room 7.30pm-10.30pm. Business Attire. **Please book by 17 October**

RSVP: TEL: (03) 9654 7271 or [BOOK ONLINE](#)

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Members \$140 / Guests \$160 Tables of 10 available @ \$1,400; please contact the office below

