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This week we take a look at tensions in the West Bank, a film on a more environmentally conscious future, and worldwide turmoil in democratic politics.  Disclaimer: The views expressed below by Councillors are their own. The Australian Institute of International Affairs New South Wales does not take policy positions. | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | |  | |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | A picture containing outdoor, fence, building, standing  Description automatically generated |  |  | | --- | | **Israel's Palestine policies**  UN Secretary-General António Guterres has [**called on**](https://www.timesofisrael.com/un-chief-calls-on-israel-to-abandon-west-bank-annexation-plans/) Israel not to annex large parts of the West Bank, further threatening the viability of Palestine. According to reporting in the Times of Israel and the international media, annexation could begin from 1 July. In commentaries in the Sydney Morning Herald last week, University of Sydney international law Professor Ben Saul [**explained**](https://www.smh.com.au/world/middle-east/why-australia-needs-to-join-global-condemnation-of-israel-s-annexation-plans-20200624-p555pr.html) how Israel's plans contravene international law, while University of Wollongong Professor Gregory Rose [**defended**](https://www.smh.com.au/world/middle-east/annexation-is-a-misnomer-israel-wants-a-safe-way-to-hand-land-to-palestinians-in-return-for-peace-20200625-p55681.html) Israel’s plans. Former Prime Minister Kevin Rudd has [**urged**](https://www.smh.com.au/politics/federal/kevin-rudd-urges-government-to-stand-up-to-israel-over-west-bank-annexation-plan-20200628-p55712.html) Australia to take a more independent position on Israeli intentions. Writing in Foreign Policy earlier this year, former Israeli Ambassador to South Africa Alon Liel [**argued**](https://foreignpolicy.com/2020/02/27/trumps-plan-for-palestine-looks-a-lot-like-apartheid/)that there were echoes of apartheid in Israel’s Palestinian policies. Image credit: [**young shanahan**](https://www.flickr.com/photos/youngshanahan/9769838652/in/photolist-fTjYE1-7SWBTV-7B7JpB-4TkUkX-VbWTRY-2gJD3zq-2gG6WTQ-2gA4mAc-2gkNaDL-2gkNjKP-7M3atZ-49p8Hv-7Z9LY4-2gHswFt-2gG6WQJ-49p9Pk-49tgio-2gr5UbY-49p9iT-CU5Tu-51onL4-2hU6dDk-97EtMh-tqo8pi-NdpVz-2h7kjVA-2h7ivNo-2h7ivMr-2h5QqAo-2gJDLK8-2gvFsQK-2gvFrhe-2gvFfGF-2ghHW7Y-51szE1-bjXMJq-3itGoT-2Y7w5-6neDqy-6wKAPE-96ZuTH-2hU2xeW-6neDru-6H2uEs-51ooAr-4gDtmh-4frn3b-3itG9i-6neCSA-6neDcu) | | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | |  | |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | This article was selected by Jocelyn Chey AM. Jocelyn is an Adjunct Professor at the Australia-China Relations Institute, University of Technology Sydney, Visiting Professor at the University of Sydney and an Adjunct Professor at the Australia-China Institute for Arts and Culture at Western Sydney University. She was previously a senior officer in the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade. Jocelyn is a Fellow of Australian Institute of International Affairs. | | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | |  | |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | A close up of a logo  Description automatically generated |  |  | | --- | | [**2040: A hybrid feature documentary**](https://www.madmanfilms.com.au/2040film/)  As we look for new ways to re-imagine the world we live in post-pandemic, the film 2040 [**imagines**](https://www.madmanfilms.com.au/2040film/) how the world could potentially look in the year 2040 if we were to implement environmentally positive technology now: technology that already exists. Director David Gameau created this film to provide hope for his young daughter and the future she will grow up in. Based around the idea of doughnut economics, more commonly known as circular economics, the film explores ways to not only reduce humanity's negative impact on the planet but how to lift people out of poverty and provide them with basic essential services at the same time. Image credit: [**2040**](https://whatsyour2040.com/) | | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | |  | |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | This film was selected by Nicole King. Nicole is an AIIA NSW Council Member and recent graduate of the University of Sydney with a double degree in Arts (Government and International Relations, Spanish and Latin American Studies) and Economics (Environmental and Resource Economics). She is particularly interested in the intersection of environmental politics and international security. | | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | |  | |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | A large clock tower towering over a city  Description automatically generated |  |  | | --- | | [**Democratic politics: The more things change, the more they stay the same?**](https://www.abc.net.au/radionational/programs/theminefield/democracy-is-being-challenged-but-is-it-changing/12363554)  The Brexit referendum, the election of Donald Trump, Labor losing the "unloseable" 2019 election at home, and more recently the COVID-19 pandemic have all made us feel we are living in an age of politics where the old rules simply do not apply. But is that really the case? In the US the most diverse Democratic primary field in history led to a very conventional presidential candidate. In the UK the radical Jeremy Corbyn has made way for former barrister Sir Keir Starmer. Six years of Liberal Party turbulence did little damage to Scott Morrison’s electoral campaign. What is going on in democratic politics? On ABC's The Minefield, Waleed Ally and Scott Stephens are joined by David Runciman, Professor of Politics at Cambridge University, to [**unpack**](https://www.abc.net.au/radionational/programs/theminefield/democracy-is-being-challenged-but-is-it-changing/12363554) that conundrum. Image Credit: [**Phillip Halling**](https://www.geograph.org.uk/more.php?id=2622545) | | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | |  | |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | This podcast was selected by Alex McManis. Alex holds a Bachelor of Arts with First Class Honours in Government and International Relations from the University of Sydney. He is currently the Climate and Energy Security Fellow at Young Australians in International Affairs. Alex has served on the Council since 2019. | | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | |  | |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | **From the Interns** | | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | In addition to our Councillors, we will be inviting one of our interns to share with you what they have found insightful or interesting in the world of international affairs over the past week. This week, Amelia Proudlove examines the implications of the US withdrawal from the Open Skies Treaty and the use of chequebook diplomacy in the Pacific by new donor nations.  Disclaimer: The views expressed below by interns are their own. The Australian Institute of International Affairs New South Wales does not take policy positions. | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | |  | |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | A large airplane flying high up in the air  Description automatically generated |  |  | | --- | | [**Transatlantic Relations Will Further Wane as the US Pulls Out of the Open Skies Treaty**](http://www.internationalaffairs.org.au/australianoutlook/transatlantic-relations-will-further-wane-as-the-u-s-pulls-out-of-the-open-skies-treaty/)  The world is becoming used to the United States pulling out of international and regional agreements under the current administration. The latest of these treaties to fall out of favour is the post-cold war Open Skies Treaty which came into force in 2002. In this [**article**](http://www.internationalaffairs.org.au/australianoutlook/transatlantic-relations-will-further-wane-as-the-u-s-pulls-out-of-the-open-skies-treaty/), Kareem Salem discusses the impact this withdrawal may have on transatlantic relationships moving forwards, coming to the conclusion that it is very likely to broaden the unease between the US and their European allies. Image credit: **[AvgeekJoe](https://www.flickr.com/photos/avgeekjoe/40430244204/in/photolist-24AFz2W-i2h3nz-F7WiZK-8275yP-dFU6kp-yTUfJr-jLZRaA-nJwB7G-9up1cN-xwoxiy-8uY58M-FVHY4Q-jx5DSP-caF6aw-8m4DEh-cd9cEC-GLLoVj-7yUGxx-6JCsQr-22CH4mk-FKMG7G-ahhWnv-23jq92h-a77Vy6-pqED5-2dxr2Go-cigoJb-f3SzQs-2dxr2go-EBhKwB-N9jMBN-2a5qigv-oppVF4-pqExi-pz4fX-kVNeLP-hQD1JR-8L3hkj-bVTzwA-pqEoi-6AQYHZ-7znpec-N96t2Q-66E8Sj-y78KPD-dBNuXy-fKWRjR-23mAoKx-fLbMqq-JofQGk" \t "_blank)** | | |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | A picture containing outdoor, road, truck, boat  Description automatically generated |  |  | | --- | | [**Chequebook diplomacy in the Pacific: Not just the big fish**](https://www.lowyinstitute.org/the-interpreter/chequebook-diplomacy-pacific-not-just-big-fish)  Chequebook diplomacy is a method utilised by traditional and emerging nations in an attempt to garner diplomatic support. This technique can be seen clearly through investments in the Pacific nations, as tracked by the Lowy Institute’s [**Pacific Aid Map**](https://pacificaidmap.lowyinstitute.org/). In this [**article**](https://www.lowyinstitute.org/the-interpreter/chequebook-diplomacy-pacific-not-just-big-fish), Euan Moyle and Alexandre Dayant consider the case studies of Slovenia, Estonia and Kuwait and their investments in the region. It is argued that this form of regional engagement is likely to continue to rise, although interestingly it is noted that the states who promote their interests through this approach may shift and alter in time.  Image credit: [**U.S. Pacific Fleet**](https://www.flickr.com/photos/compacflt/7391143010/in/photolist-AXY8Tp-AGXacE-oBobfu-bWP3Li-czG7Q5-ccfzoN-deJzFM-c34NKG-bVShZk-c3TX63-btfGHN-bUTh5g-cFKAE1-jDDywZ-czG84L-cxbqJW-cvJv9d-c3TXd1-cemrcQ-c9eqQo-czG7zy-dk6dNb-e2rw9K-cvNDdo-cdeDwo-bUTjqg-cEC8YW-cdeDMf-bWP2Lc-czG8hd-czG97o-ai7VU7-N7uLcH-AE1MiM-c3TXjf-AkRvqX-bAoPj8-29asN5d-289pyfG-oHg9Eq-tbdXkx-29asMkh-oiQeWk-oDbsvT-cg8xjb-oCTBhv-29asMzL-akRKri-bU7miB-bANiPF) | | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | |  | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | These articles were selected by Amelia Proudlove. Amelia is in her final year of a dual degree of a Bachelors of Arts/Law majoring in International Law and Global Governance at Macquarie University. During her studies she has been focusing on the role of international humanitarian law during conflicts, changing security, and counterterrorism. Amelia has been interning with the AIIA since February 2020. | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | |  | |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | **What else we're reading** | | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | * AIIA NSW intern Thomas Shortridge [**explores**](http://www.internationalaffairs.org.au/resource/west-africa-a-novel-approach-to-regionalism/) the role of regionalism and regional integration in West Africa. * An interactive [**article**](https://www.nytimes.com/interactive/2020/us/coronavirus-spread.html) in the New York Times looks at how COVID-19 spread silently across the US from as early as February. * In a special edition of ASPI's podcast Policy, Guns & Money, Brendan Nicholson and Peter Jennings [**discuss**](https://www.aspi.org.au/news/2020-defence-strategic-update)the recently released 2020 Australian Defence Strategic Update. * As Germany takes over the EU Council Presidency for the next 6 months, Euractiv and AFP [**survey**](https://www.euractiv.com/section/all/news/merkels-legacy-at-stake-as-germany-takes-eu-reins/) the challenges ahead for Angela Merkel. * The Irish Times [**reports**](https://www.irishtimes.com/news/politics/fianna-f%C3%A1il-s-miche%C3%A1l-martin-to-be-elected-taoiseach-after-greens-back-deal-1.4289821) on Ireland's recently formed government. Ireland's two major parties, Fianna Fáil and Fine Gael, will govern together for the first time in coalition with the Green Party. | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | |  | |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | **Letters to the Editor** | | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | **Get involved!**  We're committed to keeping conversations about international affairs going, so get involved in our Letters to the Editor section!  Each week, we’ll be publishing letters from our subscribers about what they think of the issues we’re discussing.  You can take part in the conversation by emailing us with your comments on each week’s articles. There are just a few simple guidelines: letters should be no more than 100 words in length, and should only be about the previous week’s articles. Please include your name and affiliation, and a mobile number (which won't be published). If you are a university student, please include your university and current degree.  Send all letters to the editors at [**aiianswletters@gmail.com**](mailto:aiianswletters@gmail.com) by Wednesday at 5pm Sydney time for the chance to be published in the following week's newsletter. | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | |  | | | | | |  |  | | --- | |  | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | The Australian Institute of International Affairs New South Wales welcomes you to Week 13 of: | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | |  | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | |  | |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | **From the Councillors** | | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | Each week, some of our Councillors will share with you a selection of articles, analytical pieces, videos and podcasts about what is happening in the world of international affairs. This week we look how the Black Lives Matter movement is influencing Indonesia, the securitisation of domestic and foreign policy, and the problems for Australia in joining the G7 summit.  Disclaimer: The views expressed below by Councillors are their own. The Australian Institute of International Affairs New South Wales does not take policy positions. | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | |  | |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | |  |  |  | | --- | | [**Securitising policy issues**](https://internationalaffairs.us15.list-manage.com/track/click?u=0e9feb1606f1b4129a8b65828&id=c65e13c1e4&e=84738c8dae)  In a wide-ranging [**dialogue**](https://internationalaffairs.us15.list-manage.com/track/click?u=0e9feb1606f1b4129a8b65828&id=41893be990&e=84738c8dae) hosted by the Australian Institute, AIIA national president Allan Gyngell and defence policy analyst Alan Behm discuss the dangers of “securitising” international policy issues. Redefining issues in security terms has tended to undermine information flows and accountability. Securitisation has extended into domestic issues, notably the January bushfires, with the defence forces called on to respond. Also of concern is the increased militarisation and sense of impunity of police forces, not only in the United States but also in Australia, and a similar trend with the Australian Border Force, contributing to callous actions on refugees. Political debate on these processes is almost non-existent.  Image credit: [**Dominique A. Piniero**](https://internationalaffairs.us15.list-manage.com/track/click?u=0e9feb1606f1b4129a8b65828&id=f1db455d39&e=84738c8dae) | | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | |  | |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | This webinar was selected by Ian Lincoln, President of AIIA NSW since 2017. Ian was in the Department of Foreign Affairs for 33 years including postings in Asia, Africa, Europe and the Pacific. He was later an appellate member of the Refugee Review Tribunal and has worked in a number of community organisations. | | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | |  | |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | |  |  |  | | --- | | [**What should Canberra do to prepare for the G7 summit?**](https://internationalaffairs.us15.list-manage.com/track/click?u=0e9feb1606f1b4129a8b65828&id=bba6d0ab6c&e=84738c8dae)  Donald Trump badly needs a success on the international stage in the lead up to November's Presidential elections and will use the G7 Summit to push his own agenda. Scott Morrison is invited and he has the opportunity to contribute but also risks alienating our Asian neighbours if he simply signs up to Washington's shopping list.  Adam Triggs of the ANU Asian Bureau of Economic Research has set out the risks and potential benefits in a useful [**article**](https://internationalaffairs.us15.list-manage.com/track/click?u=0e9feb1606f1b4129a8b65828&id=3549614cf9&e=84738c8dae) in Inside Story. In Pearls and Irritations, experienced analyst Geoff Miller has [**questioned**](https://internationalaffairs.us15.list-manage.com/track/click?u=0e9feb1606f1b4129a8b65828&id=3096bedf81&e=84738c8dae) the wisdom of re-orienting the G7 from economics to confrontational strategic issues. Image credit: [**Number 10**](https://internationalaffairs.us15.list-manage.com/track/click?u=0e9feb1606f1b4129a8b65828&id=f5b1213a25&e=84738c8dae) | | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | |  | |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | This webinar was selected by Jocelyn Chey AM. Jocelyn is an Adjunct Professor at the Australia-China Relations Institute, University of Technology Sydney, Visiting Professor at the University of Sydney and an Adjunct Professor at the Australia-China Institute for Arts and Culture at Western Sydney University. She was previously a senior officer in the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade. Jocelyn is a Fellow of Australian Institute of International Affairs. | | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | |  | |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | |  |  |  | | --- | | [**Black Lives Matter in Indonesia**](https://internationalaffairs.us15.list-manage.com/track/click?u=0e9feb1606f1b4129a8b65828&id=54c3cf2043&e=84738c8dae)  It's no surprise that the Black Lives Matter movement is resonating around the world. But Krithika Varagur [**argues**](https://internationalaffairs.us15.list-manage.com/track/click?u=0e9feb1606f1b4129a8b65828&id=ea5cbde69c&e=84738c8dae) that one of the movement’s most powerful ripple effects might actually be right on our doorstep in Indonesia. She charts some of the complex factors at play - from Indonesia's own colonial history and militarised posture towards Papua, through to broader racial tensions and specific violent incidents in Yogyakarta and Jayapura. Varagur then concludes that, while police have banned some mass rallies in Papua, a 'Papuan Lives Matter' movement is taking shape in cyberspace. And it's just getting started. | | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | |  | |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | **From the Interns** | | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | In addition to our Councillors, we will be inviting one of our interns to share with you what they have found insightful or interesting in the world of international affairs over the past week. This week, Marcus McCulloch considers India's foreign policy under Modi and the growth of COVID-19 in Latin America.  Disclaimer: The views expressed below by interns are their own. The Australian Institute of International Affairs New South Wales does not take policy positions. | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | |  | |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | |  |  |  | | --- | | [**Modi's Foreign Policy**](https://internationalaffairs.us15.list-manage.com/track/click?u=0e9feb1606f1b4129a8b65828&id=c44fb5c09d&e=84738c8dae)  When Narendra Modi was elected Prime Minister in 2014, he promised to renew India’s relations with its neighbours. [**According to**](https://internationalaffairs.us15.list-manage.com/track/click?u=0e9feb1606f1b4129a8b65828&id=bddb1b4387&e=84738c8dae) Sumit Ganguly, last week’s fatal border skirmish with China reflects a catastrophic failure to live up to this promise. In his foreign policy, Modi has proved much more adept with the stick than the carrot, which has alienated Nepal, Sri Lanka and Bangladesh. In 2019, the revocation of the special status of Jammu and Kashmir ended a fragile peace between India and Pakistan. China has taken advantage of Modi’s blunders to consolidate its relationships with India’s neighbours.  Image credit: [**Paul Kagame**](https://internationalaffairs.us15.list-manage.com/track/click?u=0e9feb1606f1b4129a8b65828&id=a299e90675&e=84738c8dae) | | |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | |  |  |  | | --- | | [**COVID-19 in Latin America**](https://internationalaffairs.us15.list-manage.com/track/click?u=0e9feb1606f1b4129a8b65828&id=ab9ce76ba4&e=84738c8dae)  Latin America is emerging as the deadliest frontier of the coronavirus. Brazil is among the worst affected, and rates of infection in Mexico, Peru and Chile are worse than those in the United States. [**According to**](https://internationalaffairs.us15.list-manage.com/track/click?u=0e9feb1606f1b4129a8b65828&id=08e399eadf&e=84738c8dae) Azam Ahmed, Anatoly Kurmanaev, Daniel Politi and Ernesto Londoño, the region is particularly vulnerable due to a combination of inequality, density and poor institutions. The virus flourishes under these conditions, and aggravates them. Yet, politicians are also to blame. The political opportunism, deliberate misinformation and recklessness associated with Trump have been echoed by Bolsonaro and López Obrador. The situation for many in the informal sector, which comprises over half of Latin American workers, is dire: risk infection, or starve.  Image credit: **[Eneas De Troya](https://internationalaffairs.us15.list-manage.com/track/click?u=0e9feb1606f1b4129a8b65828&id=0401f9e297&e=84738c8dae" \t "_blank)** | | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | |  | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | These articles were selected by Marcus McCulloch. Marcus is undertaking Honours in Political Economy at the University of Sydney, writing a thesis on industrialisation in the Soviet Union. He is a keen debater, and recently reached the finals of the World Universities Debating Championship in Bangkok. Marcus has been interning with AIIA NSW since February 2020. | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | |  | |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | **What else we're reading** | | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | * AIIA NSW intern Evangeline Larson [**analyses**](https://internationalaffairs.us15.list-manage.com/track/click?u=0e9feb1606f1b4129a8b65828&id=e1c1d683fa&e=84738c8dae) protests in Lebanon and the impact of COVID-19. * Hamish McDonald FAIIA, [**writing**](https://internationalaffairs.us15.list-manage.com/track/click?u=0e9feb1606f1b4129a8b65828&id=e6d7df3419&e=84738c8dae) in Pearls and Irritations, explores how Australian media has covered Asia, particularly China. * The Bangkok Post [**looks at**](https://internationalaffairs.us15.list-manage.com/track/click?u=0e9feb1606f1b4129a8b65828&id=a533fa7b61&e=84738c8dae) how the Move Forward Party is trying to amend Thai emergency laws to make the government more accountable. * Katherine Stewart, writing in Australian Outlook, [**discusses**](https://internationalaffairs.us15.list-manage.com/track/click?u=0e9feb1606f1b4129a8b65828&id=8667d625aa&e=84738c8dae) how the International Committee of the Red Cross is dealing with the dual challenges from armed groups and COVID-19. * The [**Lowy Institute Poll 2020**](https://internationalaffairs.us15.list-manage.com/track/click?u=0e9feb1606f1b4129a8b65828&id=63f77229d4&e=84738c8dae) finds that optimism in the economy and politics has deteriorated among Australians, with trust in great powers and their leaders collapsing. | | |