



The Imperative of Hard Power

The 2009 Defence White Paper

Tuesday 8 March 2011 5.30–6.45pm, refreshments will be provided from 5pm

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Common Room University House, Balmain Crescent ANU



Biography

Mr Michael Pezzullo was the Deputy Secretary (2009 White Paper) in the Department of Defence and was the principal author of that policy document. He had previously been Deputy Secretary Strategy and held numerous other positions in the Department of Defence and Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet after joining the public service in 1987. He has also served on the staff of the Foreign Minister, Senator the Hon Gareth Evans QC and was Deputy Chief of Staff to the Leader of the Opposition, the Hon Kim Beazley MP. Mr Pezzullo has been the Chief Operating Officer of the Australian Customs and Border Protection since July 2009.

Abstract

Traditionally, national security revolved around matters of diplomacy, the territorial integrity of states (including their physical defence on occasion) and the threat posed by foreign espionage and interference.

Today national security is a much broader concept, and encompasses a wider range of risks and threats - from traditional matters of high statecraft and the potential for major war through to the risks posed by weak states, climate change, resource scarcity, population growth, major transnational crime, and aviation, border and cyber security, to name just a few.

Not all of our policy responses to these problems can or should involve the use of military force - but some might. A key challenge for national security practitioners and analysts is to build the right kinds of intellectual and policy frameworks to use in thinking about the use of military force - and to make good decisions about the use of force as our circumstances and obligations might dictate.

This seminar will examine how the question of the use of force by states in the modern world was dealt with in the 2009 Defence White Paper, and in particular how the possible future use of force by Australia through the employment of the Australian Defence Force was framed and represented.

Presented by

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Registration required

By 4 March 2011

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