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US grand strategy: The significance of the switch to the Asia-Pacific

Thursday 29 March 2012 5.30-6.45pm, refreshments served from 5pm

Professor Sir Lawrence Freedman Department of War Studies, King's College London

New venue - Theatre 2 Manning Clark Centre, (Bldg # 26A), Union Court, ANU



The US has now withdrawn from Iraq and is setting a schedule for doing so from Afghanistan. It is now looking to cut back its military spending and rebalance its overseas commitments. This is to be done by avoiding future open-ended interventions in turbulent societies while reverting to a more traditional great power "balancing" role, especially in the Asia-Pacific area where the need is perceived to be the greatest. The lecture will address the question of how far the US is prepared to take the balancing role and the degree to which it will be able to abandon the "interventionist" role.

Sir Lawrence Freedman has been Professor of War Studies at King's College London since 1982, and Vice-Principal since 2003. Appointed Official Historian of the Falklands Campaign in 1997, he was appointed to serve as a member of the official inquiry into Britain and the 2003 Iraq War in June 2009. He has written extensively on nuclear strategy and the Cold War, as well as commenting regularly on contemporary security issues. His most recent book, *A Choice of Enemies: America confronts the Middle East*, won the 2009 Lionel Gelber Prize and Duke of Westminster Medal for Military Literature.

Presented by

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Pacific

Registration required

Register here by 28 March 2012

E national.security.college@anu.edu.au T 02 6125 6480

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