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The 2013 Defence White Paper: Key issues and challenges

Tuesday 15 May 2012 5.30-6.45, refreshments served from 5pm

Dr Rod Lyon, Dr Mark Thomson & Professor Peter Leahy

Law Theatre ANU School of Law, South Wing, Building 5, Fellows Road, ANU

Since the 2009 Defence White Paper the pace of change in Australia's strategic environment has continued to accelerate: power relativities among the United States, China, India, Japan and others continue to shift; broader forces of strategic change gather momentum; and acquiring Australia's necessary defence capabilities within budgetary parameters is becoming more complex and demanding. Through an analysis of strategy, operations, capability and budget, this seminar seeks to provide an early contribution concerning the major issues and challenges that Australian policy makers will need to consider in preparing the next Defence White Paper.

Dr Rod Lyon is the Program Director, Strategy and International, with the Australian Strategic Policy Institute. Rod has a background in both government (Office of National Assessments) and academia (University of Queensland). His research interests include Australian security, nuclear strategy and global security. He was a Fulbright Scholar in 2004 and in 2005 he was appointed to the National Consultative Committee on International Security Issues.

Dr Mark Thomson began his career as a theoretical physicist. Mark joined the Australian Department of Defence in the mid-1990s and he was appointed to the newly formed Australian Strategic Policy Institute in 2002. Mark's research interests include defence economics, alliance burden sharing, links between strategy and force structure and defence industry policy. Mark was a ministerial advisor during the development of the 2009 Australian Defence White Paper.

Professor Peter Leahy retired from the Army in July 2008 after a 37 year career as a soldier. Peter concluded his career in the Army with the rank of Lieutenant General in the appointment of the Chief of Army. Peter is now the foundation Director of the National Security Institute at the University of Canberra. Among other things, he is a member of the Defence South Australia Advisory Board, a Director of the ACT Branch of the Australian Industry Defence Network and is a Director of the Kokoda Foundation.

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Registration required

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