

Defence priorities for the new administration: Implications for the balance of power in the Asia Pacific

About the speaker



Michèle Flournoy is currently a senior advisor with the Boston Consulting Group. Michèle most recently served as the

Under Secretary of Defence for Policy, the third-ranking official in the Office of the Secretary of Defence. In this capacity, she served as the principal adviser to the Secretary in the formulation of national security and defence policy, oversight of military plans and operations, and in National Security Council deliberations. She also represented the Department in dozens of foreign engagements, in the media and before Congress. Prior to her confirmation, Ms. Flournoy co-led President Obama's transition team at the Defence Department.

In January 2007, Ms. Flournoy co-founded the Center for a New American Security (CNAS), a non-partisan think tank dedicated to developing strong, pragmatic and principled national security policies. She served as CNAS' President until returning to government service in 2009. Before co-founding CNAS, she was a senior adviser at the Center for Strategic and International Studies, where she led projects, published and spoke on a broad range of defence policy and international security issues.

How will the outcome of the U.S. elections affect how the United States defines its national security and defence priorities for the future?

Should we expect continuity or change?

And what do the results mean for U.S. efforts to "rebalance" towards the Asia Pacific?

As the former Undersecretary of Defence for Policy in the Obama administration, Ms Flournoy will discuss how the next administration is likely to define its national security strategy and what this will mean for U.S. policy and presence in the Asia Pacific. In particular, she will discuss whether and how the new administration is likely to adjust U.S. diplomatic and military posture in the region and what all this means for the U.S.-Australia alliance. Finally, she will highlight some of the hard choices and tradeoffs the President will face in an era of continued budgetary austerity.

[Join the National Security College \(NSC\) and the Australia and New Zealand School of Government \(ANZSOG\) at the ANU, for a stimulating and very topical presentation delivered by a speaker close to the Obama administration at the very peak of the Defence sector.](#)

To attend please register

DATE: Thursday 29 November 2012
TIME: 7:15am-7:30am: registration
7:30am-9:00am: breakfast, presentation and Q&A
VENUE: The Common Room
University House
Balmain Crescent
Australian National University
RSVP: [Click here](#) to register by Friday, 23 November

If you have any enquiries regarding this event, please contact: Kristina Tan (NSC) 02 6125 6480 or Peter Debus (ANZSOG) 03 8344 1991