



Australia's Antarctic strategic interests in the 21st century

Tuesday 9 September 5.45 – 7pm

Speakers

Dr Tony Press

Head Inquirer, 20 Year Australian Antarctic Strategic Plan

Adjunct Professor, University of Tasmania

Visiting Professor, Scientific Committee on Antarctic Research

Location

Weston Theatre

Crawford Building #132,
1 Lennox Crossing, ANU

Light refreshments will be provided

Registration required

Register here by 8 September

This lecture is free and open to the public
nsc.anu.edu.au

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Presented by

National Security College

Crawford School of
Public Policy

ANU College of

Asia & the Pacific



Australia asserts sovereignty over 42 per cent of the Antarctic continent and has a long involvement in Antarctic exploration and science. Australia also has important economic and environmental interests in the Great Southern Ocean. We are an original signatory to the Antarctic Treaty which, among other things, establishes all that part of the globe below 60 degrees South as a region free of military conflict and nuclear arms.

While Australia has been a leading player in Antarctic affairs for more than a century, Australian leadership should not be taken for granted as

new countries emerge as significant participants in the Antarctic Treaty System. This NSC public seminar will explore the emerging issues in Antarctica and their implications for the Antarctic Treaty System and for Australia's Antarctic policy.

In October 2013, Tony Press was commissioned by the Australian Government to undertake a review of Australia's Antarctic engagement and to develop a 20 Year Strategic Plan. The terms of reference for the development of the plan included consideration of:

- > the strategic importance of Australia's Antarctic interests;
- > expanding the role of Tasmania as the gateway for Antarctic expeditions and scientific research;
- > ensuring robust and reliable access to the Australian Antarctic Territory;
- > extending Australia's reach across the Australian Antarctic Territory;
- > committing to undertaking nationally and globally significant science; and
- > committing to exercising influence in the region through the Antarctic Treaty system.