



Young Professionals – ‘Life as a Diplomat’ with Susan Coles, Senior Career Diplomat at DFAT

Thursday 23 May 2024: 5:30pm for 6pm – 7pm AEST at Level 13, 356 Collins Street, Melbourne VIC 3000



Attention all students and young professionals interested in a career in diplomacy. AIIA Victoria is introducing the Young Professionals – 'Life as a Diplomat' Series. We welcome you to the first-ever instalment of the series. Our distinguished guest speaker is Susan Coles, Senior Career Diplomat at DFAT.

Explore a career diplomat's first-hand experiences working in Australia and overseas, learn about essential diplomatic skills, and discover various

career pathways and opportunities in diplomacy.

What does the day-to-day life of a diplomat entail? What challenges do diplomats commonly face? And how can young professionals kick-start their careers in diplomacy?

Join AIIA Victoria for an engaging information session led by an experienced diplomat, where you will gain a deeper understanding of what a career in this field entails.



Ms Coles is a senior career officer with the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade and has served overseas as Ambassador to the Indian Ocean (Mauritius, Seychelles, Madagascar and the Comores Islands), and most recently, in the Pacific as Consul-General to French Polynesia. In previous postings as First Secretary at the Australian Mission to the UN Vienna, and at the APEC Secretariat in Singapore, she specialised in nuclear disarmament issues and regional trade issues, respectively. Has been a senior trade negotiator for DFAT including on Free Trade Agreements with Japan, Korea, China and the CP TPP. As a Rhodes Scholar, Ms Coles completed a post-graduate degree specialising in International Law, at the University of Oxford, with prior Law and Arts degrees from the University of Adelaide.

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AIIA Victoria gratefully acknowledges the **Walter Mangold Trust Fund** for its ongoing support of our young members.

In-person: AIIA VIC Young Professionals Members **\$10**. Student Non-Members **\$20**.

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