



**Australian Institute  
of International Affairs**  
Victoria

## **Ageing Powers and Growing Challenges in the Indo-Pacific**

Prof. Andrew Oros, Washington College

Tuesday 23 July 2024: 5.30pm for 6 – 7pm AEST - Level 13, 356 Collins Street, Melbourne VIC 3000

A demographic revolution is profoundly impacting the Indo-Pacific's military landscape. Across the continent, populations are ageing rapidly, and in some countries, even shrinking. These "greying" populations have far-reaching implications for the military capabilities and strategic planning of nations in the region.



At the heart of the recruitment challenge is an ageing demographic. Developed nations like Japan, South Korea, China and Taiwan find themselves with fewer young recruits. Traditional methods of enlistment, such as conscription or volunteer recruitment, are becoming increasingly difficult to sustain.

Simultaneously, the growing number of older veterans places a greater burden on defence budgets as costs for pensions, healthcare and other benefits rise.

How will these nations' military capacity be affected by their ageing populations? Can they effectively respond to a shrinking pool of recruits? How can the recruitment numbers be made more sustainable? To what extent could technological innovations offset these challenges?

AIIA Victoria invites you to join Andrew Oros to discuss his insights and [forthcoming book](#).



**Professor Andrew Oros** is a specialist on the international and comparative politics of East Asia and the advanced industrial democracies. He served as a fellow at the Wilson Center in Washington, DC to work on a new book tentatively titled *Asia's Aging Security: Aging Power Resilience and America's Response*. The project is also supported by grants from the Global Taiwan Institute, the Japan Foundation, and the Korea Foundation. Oros has also shared his research in over a dozen scholarly articles, in newspaper opinion pieces, numerous mass-media quotations in publications like *The New York Times* and *Time* magazine and on air on BBC, NPR, CNN International, and CCTV, and lectures to policymakers in Washington DC, Tokyo, Beijing, Berlin, and elsewhere.

**[BOOK ONLINE HERE](#)**

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