

Geopolitics in Europe – a Norwegian Perspective

Erik Svedahl

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Thursday 12 September 2024: 5.30pm for 6-7pm AEST - Level 13, 356 Collins Street, Melbourne VIC 3000

Sharing a border with Russia on the strategically important Kola Peninsula and the Barents Sea, Norway has long played an important role in NATO, and served on the UN Security Council for the 2021-2022 term.



Having been involved in peace diplomacy in a number of countries from Colombia to Sri Lanka, the Philippines and the Middle East, Norway has for decades been hailed for facilitating dialogue and negotiations, and its support for multilateral institutions.

But Russia's large-scale invasion of Ukraine in February 2022 altered the geopolitical landscape in a way not seen since World War II. As the international system is challenged by increased rivalry between the major powers and lack of respect for international law, what can smaller nations do to shape the debate? How can Australia support Norway in seeking solutions for a common future?

AIIA Victoria invites you to join Erik Svedahl to discuss geopolitics in Europe from a Norwegian perspective, Norway's foreign and security policy priorities, and personal observations from his most recent postings in Ukraine and Northwest Russia.



***Erik Svedahl** is Deputy Head of Mission at the Royal Norwegian Embassy in Canberra. A career diplomat with 35 years of experience in the Norwegian Foreign Service, he previously served as Norway's Ambassador to Ukraine (2020 - 2023) and Consul General in Murmansk, Russian Federation (2017 - 2020). He has also been posted to Moscow, London, Beijing and Bangkok.*

This event will be held under the Chatham House Rule and is in-person only

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