



Australian Institute
of International Affairs
Victoria

17th Sir Zelman Cowen Oration and Dinner

Thursday 3 April 2025 6:30pm-9.45pm – W Melbourne Hotel, Collins Arch, 447 Collins Street, Melbourne VIC 3000

AIIA Victoria warmly invites you to a stimulating evening at the W Melbourne Hotel. Meet old and new friends, mingle with diplomats and members of the international community in Melbourne, and continue the tradition of acknowledging the contribution of Sir Zelman Cowen AK GCMG GCVO QC.

Former Governor-General and legal expert Sir Zelman Cowen dedicated his life to engaging the Australian public in international affairs. To honour this commitment and his role as past Patron of the Institute, AIIA Victoria's annual *Sir Zelman Cowen Oration* features an eminent speaker discussing a current issue that affects how Australia engages with the world.

AIIA Victoria is delighted to announce that the 17th Sir Zelman Cowen Oration will be delivered by:

Amanda Lacaze

Critical Minerals, Renewable Energy Transition and Global Security



Amanda Lacaze is the CEO and Managing Director of Lynas Rare Earths, the world's only significant producer of separated Rare Earth materials outside China. Lynas is an environmentally responsible producer of Rare Earth materials essential to future-facing and green technologies, including electric vehicles, electronics and wind turbines. In Australia, Lynas operates the high-grade, Tier 1 Mt Weld mine and concentration plant near Laverton, Western Australia. In 2024, Lynas began production at its new Kalgoorlie Rare Earths Processing Facility, which is Australia's first downstream rare earths processing facility. In Malaysia, the Lynas Malaysia advanced materials plant is the world's largest single rare earths processing facility, and the only producer of separated rare earths outside of China. The company is also planning new rare earths separation facility in the United States, with funding

a support

from the U.S. Department of Defence. Amanda was appointed CEO in June 2014 and has successfully led the company through a challenging turnaround and the ambitious Lynas 2025 growth plan. Early in her career, Amanda developed deep management and marketing experience which led to positions across many industries, including telecommunications, agriculture and FMCG. Amanda was recognised in the Australian Financial Review's 2023 Business People of the Year list; named in the Australian Financial Review Magazine's 'Power List' in 2021 and 2019; and was awarded CEO of the Year in the 2018 MiningNews.Net Awards. Amanda is a board member of the Minerals Council of Australia and a member of Chief Executive Women and the Australian Institute of Company Directors.

Pre-dinner drinks commence in the Great Room Foyer from **6:30pm** followed by **dinner** in the Great Room from **7:15pm to 9:45pm**

Earlybird tickets (to 1 March 2025): **AIIA VIC Members & Guests: \$170 Non-members: \$190**
Tables of 8 and 10 available; please [book online here](#) or contact AIIA VIC on admin.vic@internationalaffairs.org.au

Business attire | Please **book online here** by **Thursday 27 March 2025**