

# AUKUS – Geopolitical Implications

Panel Discussion: Dr Euan Graham, Dr Sidharth Kaushal & Dr Maria Rost Rublee,  
moderated by Helen Brown

Thursday 22 June: 5.30 pm for 6 – 7pm AEST Dyason House, 124 Jolimont Road, East Melbourne

Since the trilateral AUKUS security pact between Australia, the UK and the United States was announced on 15 September 2021, much attention has focused on the issue of the nuclear-powered submarines which Australia will eventually acquire (the so-called “Pillar 1”).

The submarine plan is just one part of the proposed deepening of security collaboration among the three countries. The agreement also covers ‘Pillar II’ which covers improved technological capacity and information sharing.



What will cooperation on hypersonic missiles, cyber operations, quantum computing and other technological innovation mean for security in the region? And does this mean the military hardware may turn out to be of secondary importance to the agreement’s role as a broader advanced technology accelerator?

Join us to discuss the foundational agreement and geopolitical implications, the risks, and advantages for each of the countries involved and the impact in the wider Indo-Pacific region.

Co-hosting with the [AUKUS Forum](#), AIIA Victoria invites you to this expert panel in the first of a series on AUKUS to discuss the geopolitical implications.

Panellist details overleaf...

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**Dr Euan Graham** until recently was based in the Singapore office of the International Institute for Strategic Studies (IISS). He was responsible for furthering research within the IISS on defence and strategy in the Indo-Pacific and supported the IISS Shangri-La Dialogue and other activities run by IISS-Asia. He has expertise on Australia's strategic policy, maritime and naval issues in the Asia-Pacific region, the geopolitics of the Korean Peninsula and Japan. He is the author of [Australia's Security in China's Shadow](#) (IISS Adelphi series, March 2023).



**Dr Sidharth Kaushal** is Research Fellow, Sea Power at RUSI. His research at RUSI covers the impact of technology on maritime doctrine in the 21st century and the role of sea power in a state's grand strategy. Sidharth holds a doctorate in International Relations from the London School of Economics, where his research examined the ways in which strategic culture shapes the contours of a nation's grand strategy.



**Maria Rost Rublee** is an Associate Professor of International Relations at Monash University, with expertise in international security, including nuclear politics, maritime security and diversity in security studies. She is a non-resident fellow at the Royal Australian Navy Sea Power Centre and is also President of Women in International Security-Australia. Her work has been published in a variety of international journals and her book *Nonproliferation Norms: Why States Choose Nuclear Restraint* received the Alexander George Book Award for best book in political psychology. Maria received her Ph.D. from George Washington University.



**Helen Brown** has more than 20 years' experience in writing, speaking and analysing complex subjects and issues through several roles as a multimedia journalist, producer and communications specialist. Helen lived and worked in Indonesia for four years as a correspondent for the national broadcaster, ABC News, covering social, economic, political and strategic events. She is currently Lead, Communications and Outreach at the Australia-Indonesia Centre and manages her own consultancy, *Bisnis Asia*.

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