



Regional Programme Australia and the Pacific Activities 2020

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REGIONAL PROGRAMME
AUSTRALIA AND THE PACIFIC

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The Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung

The Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung (KAS) is a political foundation of Germany, with the vision to promote international dialogue, sustainable development, good governance, capacity building, regional integration and enhance understanding of the key drivers of global developments. It is named after the first Chancellor (Prime Minister) of the Federal Republic of Germany, Konrad Adenauer who embodied Christian-social, conservative and liberal traditions. His name represents the democratic rebuilding of Germany, reconciliation with France, the anchoring of German foreign policy in a trans-Atlantic community of values, a vision of European unity and Germany's orientation towards a social market economy.

German political foundations are unique throughout the world. The Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung is associated with Germany's Christian Democratic Union (CDU) party. Not many other organisations provide the same expertise in the field of democracy building and dialogue. Although each foundation is affiliated to with a political party, they are organizationally, legally and financially independent and they are funded by the German Government. Their international work is closely aligned with Germany's foreign policy goals.

Through its international activities and projects carried out in collaboration with local partners, KAS makes a substantial contribution to international cooperation, ensuring that Germany lives up to its growing responsibility in the world. Particularly in development policy, the aim of our work is to motivate and enable (young) people to shape their own future by strengthening democracy, the rule of law and promote the principles of a just social market economy. This includes capacity building in the areas of creating sustainable democratic structures, constitutional reform, as well as the support of human rights and peace processes. For this end, we collaborate with government institutions, policy-makers, political centre parties, civil society organisations, academia and the media sector.

A further pillar underpinning the political work is research and consultancy. This is more than just giving advice on current political affairs. We conduct research on the implications of political developments and seek to inform the policy-making process to contribute towards the development of far-sighted, sustainable policies that can help prevent crises.

Worldwide work and Activities in Australia and the Pacific

Currently KAS is present in around 120 countries, with over 100 offices on six continents. With our worldwide networks and long-term partner structures, we aim to contribute to knowledge exchange and policy development in line with our values and goals. Especially across the Asia-Pacific region, the work of KAS is reflective of Germany's commitment to an order based on rules, cooperation and responsible, concerted leadership.

As current global developments – such as a volatile security environment – underscore the common interests of Europe and Australia, KAS' Regional Programme for Australia and the Pacific seeks to foster durable collaboration through dialogue among parliamentarians, representatives of government departments and leading academic/think tank experts, as well as political analysis and consultancy. For the European Union in general and Germany in particular, dialogues with Australia and New Zealand are of special relevance due to our history of strong bilateral and regional relations. Given our shared values and common interests in shaping the rules-based order, there are manifold opportunities for this partnership. Our programmes are dedicated to collaboration and knowledge-sharing to strengthen our collective resilience and ability to find solutions to the pressing problems of our time.



A Word from the Director

2020 will be remembered for major disruptions on both a national and global scale, from the devastating Australian bushfires to the global impacts of the coronavirus pandemic. The latter has turned the world upside down and will shape history with its long-term effects.

COVID-19 has accelerated many trends in the field of international relations that were present even before, yet the pandemic amplified their significance and visibility: the crises affecting multilateralism and transatlantic relations, China and Russia's growing global influence-seeking, or intensifying disinformation campaigns – what came to be known as “infodemic” - are just a few examples.

In the midst of the pandemic, in July 2020 Germany took over the six-month presidency of the Council of the European Union. Under the banner “Together for Europe's recovery” the entire presidency focused on enabling Europe to cope with the consequences of the pandemic. European cohesion, enhancing digitalization, technological and industrial sovereignty, reforming policy on migration and creating a new matrix for re-engaging the EU with the UK and China, as well as promoting the EU Green Deal and European values on an international level will also remain on the agenda of Portugal and Slovenia, both successors of Germany to the EU “Trio-Presidency”.

For Germany a significant milestone in 2020 was the 30th anniversary of German Unity - a reminder that German reunification would not have been possible without the preceding institutionalisation of the vision of “European Unity”.

In Australia the containment of the Coronavirus across the country - under the motto “Keeping the Australians safe” - was the government's number one priority; lockdowns, contact tracing and public adherence to a strict regime contributed to the success of the policies and increased trust in government. But Australia, also known as the “lucky country” with a record of almost three decades of uninterrupted prosperity, is now in its first recession after 30 years and faces long-term economic challenges – in addition to increasingly tense relations with its major trading partner China.

In the foreign policy area Prime Minister Scott Morrison emphasized Australia's intensified regional partnership as a sign of greater responsibility and named the Indo-Pacific as the “epicentre of rising strategic competition” - in a

world in which the balance between strategic engagement and strategic competition in the US-China relationship has shifted. The 2020 Defence Strategic Update of the Australian government, representing a re-orientation of Australia's strategic positioning, responds to the challenges of a shifting geopolitical environment – especially in the light of the changes the pandemic brought. For Australia, as a key player in the Asia-Pacific, questions of regional leadership, institution-building and integration are of paramount importance to ensure continued geopolitical and geo-economic stability, security and prosperity.

This is especially salient against the backdrop of a globalised and interdependent world, where economic well-being, political stability and security are interlinked. For Australia, the security and prosperity of the Asia-Pacific (including the Indo-Pacific and the economic and security integration of the South Pacific region) are of central concern – not only in its wider geographical neighbourhood but also globally. What is happening in the Asia-Pacific does matter to Europe as well.

The German Government's new Policy Guidelines for the Indo-Pacific, released in September 2020, signal a distinct commitment on Germany's part to actively contribute to shaping the rules-based order - whose future is seen to be determined in the Indo-Pacific. Under the heading ‘Germany-Europe-Asia: Shaping the 21st Century Together’, the Guidelines are intended to pave the way for closer cooperation with partners in the region – in particular ASEAN and the so-called Partners across the Globe.

“the security and prosperity of the Asia-Pacific (including the Indo-Pacific and the economic and security integration of the South Pacific region) are of central concern – not only in its wider geographical neighbourhood but also globally.”

It is also encouraging to see continuous progress in the formalisation of the EU-Australia Free Trade negotiations. A Free Trade Agreement between the EU and New Zealand is also underway, highlighting the increased focus of our two regions to connect and cooperate.

As far as New Zealand is concerned, 2020 was an election year under difficult circumstances. The government implemented an early and strict lockdown and nearly eliminated the coronavirus. The so-called ‘covid election’ not only brought with it a record number of advance votes but also resulted in the first party to achieve an absolute majority since the introduction of the mixed member proportional system and reaffirmed the leadership of the country by Prime Minister Jacinda Ardern and the Labour Party. Given the country's dependence on tourism and the education sector, the economic recovery will be a challenging task for the new government.

While most South Pacific island countries have so far been able to remain free from local transmission of the coronavirus, their economies have lost revenues from tourism, the export of produce and remittances. Given that most of them are still considered amongst the least developed countries, their economic recovery will also be a difficult one.

Responding to the aforementioned global challenges, there is an increased need for bilateral and multilateral cooperation between like-minded nations who can work together to uphold the principles underpinning the liberal architecture. This is done by devising frameworks and policies that reflect this

normative foundation and offer solutions to the pressing problems of our time. The commitment to multilateral cooperation is the key driver and overarching goal in the international work of the Konrad Adenauer Stiftung. The recent crises rocking our hyper-linked, interdependent world have revealed, we are all living in decisive times for multilateral cooperation. The KAS Regional Programme Australia and the Pacific Konrad Adenauer Foundation is committed to enhancing understanding of the drivers of these global developments and promote knowledge-sharing and dialogue among key stakeholders in the political process.

In our fourth year as an established regional office, we have sought to achieve this by hosting and contributing to a number of theme-focused events in Australia, New Zealand and the South Pacific – in 2020 mostly in a digitalized way. These ranged from political dialogue programmes to intensify the bilateral relationship between Germany, Australia and New Zealand in the field of Foreign and Security Policy, Cyber Security and our well-established annual Australia-Europe Counter-Terrorism Dialogue, Energy Policy as well as a focus on Development Policy. In 2020 we also established a rule of law dialogue between Germany and Australia. Additionally we further expanded our foothold in the South Pacific in cooperation with the Victoria University Wellington by initiating an online International Dispute Resolution Training Programme that focuses on climate change in the Pacific region.

Special highlights included the fourth iteration of our annual Konrad Adenauer Lecture Series in cooperation with the ANU Centre for European Studies - with the Hon Julie Bishop as keynote speaker on the *topic Multilateralism and Regional Cooperation in Times of Global Crises*. Another key event was a virtual dialogue between the German Minister of Defense, Annegret Kramp Karrenbauer and her Australian Counterpart, Senator the Hon Linda Reynolds. Their discussion centred on the strategic outlook in the Indo-Pacific and the potential of Australian-German Defence relations; this highlighted once more that amongst the many shared concerns about the future of the rules-based order, there are also many points of commonality and opportunities for increased strategic cooperation in the Indo-Pacific.

Through a range of accompanying innovative publications and digital news digests, we sought to further deepen understanding of these issues. This way, we have released new issues of our 'Periscope' Analysis Paper/Brief Series – dedicated on connecting perspectives from Europe and the Australia-Pacific region on topics such as energy policy, cyber security and the rule of law. Another project we are proud of is the 2020 ASPI-KAS Special Report on the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic on extremism dynamics, because it highlights the long-standing partnership with our cooperation partner ASPI. And, on a weekly basis our 'Digital Snapshots' offer compact analysis of relevant current affairs issues from 'down under' - including New Zealand and the South Pacific of course - to readers across the miles. And last but not least, we concluded the year with another highlight – the launch of our complementary website "Periscope".

"The KAS Regional Programme Australia and the Pacific Konrad Adenauer Foundation is committed to enhancing understanding of the drivers of these global developments and promote knowledge-sharing and dialogue among key stakeholders in the political process."

Understanding Contemporary Challenges Through the PERISCOPE Vision

In order to capture the many aspects of the challenges we face from a wider arc of vision, we have developed PERISCOPE in 2020 as a platform for publications and analysis on contemporary issues in the area of foreign and security policy, cybersecurity, terrorism/counter-terrorism, energy policy, the rule of law, as well as development policy and economic and social matters.

Just like the real-world sighting instrument, PERISCOPE is meant to broaden our insights - taking in views from different angles. It is reflective of the Konrad Adenauer Foundation's commitment to enhance understanding of the key drivers of global developments and promote knowledge-sharing and dialogue among key stakeholders in the political process.

This way, it seeks to bring together perspectives from Germany, Europe, the Australia, New Zealand and the Pacific region to help address the pressing problems of our time.

As the COVID-19 pandemic has laid bare vulnerabilities, the resulting upheavals and globally reverberating crises are at the same time underscoring the common interests between Europe and Australia. And Australia, with the support of like-minded nations like Germany, is stepping up its leadership in shaping the international order in the Indo-Pacific. And the vision behind PERISCOPE is to provide a platform for generating insights that can contribute towards these efforts.

Through all these online/offline and hybrid activities, publications and digital initiatives, we seek to contribute to a broadened understanding of the challenges that concern us all in an interconnected world. As you read on, you will be able to glean an overview of our focus and activities in 2020, a panorama snapshot of how we have sought to bring our regions closer together and contribute towards improving the political dialogue with this part of the world.

When reflecting back on an unusual year we are anticipating an active 2021 and working together with you to achieve this goal. My team and I look ahead with optimism and we cordially thank all our friends and partners for the great support and cooperation.

Dr Beatrice Gorawantschy
Director Regional Programme
Australia and the Pacific

(Photo Credit: Rohan Thomson, Pew Pew Studio)



Parliamentary and Political Party Dialogue

“...today’s idea in one country is tomorrow’s policy in another”

From the International Democratic Union’s mission statement¹

International cooperation and multilateral engagement, based on shared principles and common goals, begin with dialogue. Parliamentary diplomacy and inter-parliamentary exchanges play an important role in building bridges between countries to enhance peace, democracy and sustainable development.

Less driven by protocol than meetings between ministers and heads of States, exchanges of ideas, experiences and good practices between parliamentarians and party representatives promote a better understanding of shared challenges: by learning from each other to better address challenges, identify avenues for action and drive meaningful change.

Germany, Australia and New Zealand have highly respected parliamentary systems based on a strong democratic tradition. This places them in an excellent position to work together to develop comprehensive and coordinated policies in response to today’s challenges. Across the Pacific Islands, the further development of inclusive political parties and the rule of law are paramount to sustainable development.

Parliamentary and political party dialogue therefore constitutes a key pillar of our work in Australia and the Pacific region.

¹ The IDU is an inter-parliamentary forum for centre-right parties to exchange views on matters of policy and organisational interest, “so that they can learn from each other, act together, establish contacts and speak with one strong voice to promote democracy and centre-right policies around the globe”.



Members of the German-Pacific Parliamentary Friendship Group of the Bundestag, MP Volkmar Klein (centre), German Consul-General Peter Silberberg (far right) and Brisbane Honorary Consul Prof. Michael Rosemann (far left)

February 2020

Visit of the German-Pacific Parliamentary Friendship group headed by MP Volkmar Klein

KAS Australia & the Pacific was excited to take part in the 2nd Brisbane Climate Change Roundtable, organised by the Honorary Consul of Germany, Prof. Michael Rosemann. The informative and inspiring discussions covered, amongst others, the following topics:

- the conflict between economic and ecological well-being,
- the need to convert symptoms (climate indicators) into impact statements,
- a requirement for incentive schemes that scale globally

- the increasing complexity of systemic climate solutions (e.g., integrating energy & foreign policy; solar to hydrogen)

Participants included a delegation from the German-Pacific Parliamentary Friendship Group under the leadership of MP Volkmar Klein as well as the German Consul-General Peter Silberberg and representatives from Climate-KIC, QUT (Queensland University of Technology), UQ (University of Queensland) and Messe International.

(Source: Report German Honorary Consulate Brisbane).

October 2020

Farewelling Mathias Cormann

Senator the Hon Mathias Cormann, Minister for Finance and Leader of the Government in the Senate left Parliament in October 2020; he was officially nominated by the Australian government as candidate for the OECD’s Secretary General’s post.

The Regional Programme Australia and the Pacific expresses its sincere appreciation for the invaluable contributions of the Hon Mathias Cormann towards furthering the bilateral relationship between Germany and Australia. KAS Australia and the Pacific is most grateful for Senator Cormann’s patronage and long-standing support which has been invaluable to the establishment of the KAS office in Australia and its ongoing activities. In the true sense of “distance does not matter”, we are looking forward to keeping in touch!



Former Minister for Finance the Hon Mathias Cormann with Dr Beatrice Gorawantschy

February - March 2020

Tackling the New Challenges for Political Parties and Liberal Democracies in Changing Times

KAS Australia and the Pacific was pleased to welcome Dr Klaus Schueler, State Secretary (ret'd) and former Federal Managing Director of the CDU, for a political dialogue programme with Australian and New Zealand politicians, political party and industry representatives, academics and think tank experts. Dr Schueler, who is now the Board of Management's representative for national and international politics at LANXESS and a member of the Board of Trustees at the Konrad-Adenauer-Foundation was accompanied by Dr Peter Hefele, Head of the Asia Department at KAS. They engaged in a series of roundtables, bilateral meetings and discussions in Brisbane, Sydney, Canberra, Auckland and Wellington on timely issues such as populism, European integration, climate politics as well as the new challenges to democracy and the rules-based order in a changing global environment.

Left: Lecture at University of Queensland with Prof Katharine Gelber, Head of the School of Political Science and International Studies & Professor of Politics and Public Policy, University of Queensland.

Right: Dinner discussion with representatives of the Brisbane Political, Business and Science Community

In Australia, Dr Schueler for instance addressed the German Australian business community and academic audiences in Brisbane and Sydney on 'Germany and Europe in the post-Brexit/post-Merkel era' and exchanged views with policy makers and political partners at the Federal Parliament in Canberra, including the then Minister of Finance the Hon Mathias Cormann, as well as NSW Minister for Jobs, Investment, Tourism the Hon Stuart Ayres and the Speaker of the New South Wales Legislative Assembly the Hon Jonathan O'Dea.

A key event was also a public lecture at the University of Queensland which centred on the challenges to democracy and the rules-based order in a changing global environment. It was titled **Disruptive Times - Liberal Democracy under Pressure**. Rather than simply lamenting a 'crisis of the West' and liberal values, Dr Schueler sought to go beyond defeatist assessments and examined what can be done to enable liberalism to deliver on its promises to individuals and societies – both domestically as well as internationally. For this end, Dr Schueler proposed a recalibration of liberal values based on critical reflection of where the trajectory of Western liberal democracies may have gone off course over the past decade.

Specifically, he highlighted a number of inflection points and unhelpful economic and socio-political narratives in order to draw out lessons: with the end goal of what Dr Schueler described as "polishing away blind spots and giving liberal democracy its shine back"

Overall, the focus was on how to weather the storms of a changed political landscape since both Germany and Australia as well as New Zealand are facing various challenges in their respective domestic settings as well as internationally.

As value partners, navigating changing political and economic tides requires a delicate balancing of pragmatism and principled commitment to the foundational tenets of liberalism. Matters of international trade, global security and multilateralism have become pillars that determine the stability of domestic political and economic systems for both countries, including issues of climate change and energy politics. The various discussions, round tables and bilateral meetings reinforced the need to stick to the tried and proven narrative of what the liberal order can offer for societies and individuals.



Left: Luncheon discussion with Board members of the German-Australian Chamber of Industry and Commerce (AHK) and the European Australian Business Council (EABC), Guests of honour, the Hon Nick Greiner AC, Chair Emeritus EABC and then Federal President of the Liberal Party and Mrs Lucy Turnbull AO, then Chief Commissioner, Greater Sydney Commission.

Right: (Top) Meeting with Hon Jonathan O'Dea MP, NSW Speaker of the House. (Middle) Meeting with Senator the Hon Mathias Cormann – the then Minister of Finance & former Co-Chair of the Australian-German Bilateral Advisory Group. (Bottom) Meeting with Stuart Ayres MP, NSW Minister for Jobs, Investment, Tourism.



Foreign and Security Policy

Katja Theodorakis

Senior Programme Coordinator for Research and Analysis (Foreign/Security Policy)

Intense political competition and digital developments have greatly influenced the way we see and understand foreign policy and traditional diplomacy. These complexities have created an increasingly challenging security environment, and to avoid being caught off-guard, political decision-makers are forced to think ahead more, taking into consideration a wider array of traditional and non-traditional threats.

How to navigate strategic uncertainty in the Indo-Pacific, especially with an eye on the changing leadership role of the US in the region is a formidable challenge for Australia as a regional power committed to upholding the rules-based order. And the European Union, equally facing new economic and security challenges, including issues arising from digital transformation and emerging technologies, works with a clearly articulated vision of 'strategic autonomy' under the new 'geopolitical' Commission. As the Covid-19 pandemic has only highlighted the vulnerabilities inherent in global interdependencies and intensified existing debates about greater resilience, autonomy and various forms of diversification and decoupling, both Australia and Europe are seeking to take an increasingly active role in shaping the international system.

“the Covid-19 pandemic has only highlighted the vulnerabilities inherent in global interdependencies”

Here, strategic cooperation centred on upholding the tenets of the rules-based order is of paramount importance to the kind of stability, security and prosperity that will extend well beyond the Indo-Pacific region.

The overarching aim of our foreign and security policy analysis is therefore a finer-grained understanding of present geopolitical challenges, through addressing a variety of topics and from various perspectives – with the overarching aim to better identify future challenges and highlight opportunities for cooperation.



Photo Credit: L B (via unsplash)

Australia, Germany and Europe as Shapers of the Global Order?

Multilateralism, 'Pragmatic Internationalism' and the Future of International Cooperation

One can detect a common theme in recent public foreign policy statements by Australia, Germany and the EU: that it is in their respective interest to not only defend but also to actively shape the global order. EU Commission President Ursula von der Leyen's State of the Union Speech (SOTEU) from September illustrates this poignantly, as do the German Foreign Minister's framing and introductory words around the recently released Indo-Pacific Policy Guidelines.

Similarly, the Australian Prime Minister as well as the Defence and Foreign Minister took a distinctively assertive stance when they introduced the long-awaited Defence Strategic Update (see Snapshot #19/20). This more pronounced pivot towards the Indo-Pacific as the strategic focus for Australia's defence activities also signaled a greater willingness to actively defend Australia's interests and shape the rules-based order in the region.

It could be argued that such positioning is based on the growing realization that the international order, albeit 'rules-based', is also very much shaped by power - and that the current geostrategic environment, warrants a shift of focus from internationalism based on an ideal view of the liberal order to a more pragmatist variety of internationalism.

Overall, the common factor for Australia and the EU is the need for greater sovereignty and strategic autonomy, to find new ways to exercise influence in the international system. This requires new partnerships, as identified in Germany's recently released Indo-Pacific policy guidelines: 'Global Partners' - industrialized democracies such as Australia, India, Japan, and South Korea— are seen as key variables in the quest for greater self-reliance. Pragmatically, these partnerships would be built around key policy issues such as digital autonomy, supply chain sovereignty, and an expanded European security footprint through bilateral and multilateral joint naval exercises.

“the strategic focus for Australia’s defence activities also signaled a greater willingness to actively defend Australia’s interests”

The Hon Julie Bishop discusses key ingredients for a secure, open, stable and prosperous Indo-Pacific.



View the video on the Periscope website. periscopekasaustralia.com.au/ms-julie-bishop-discusses-key-ingredients-for-a-secure-open-stable-and-prosperous-indo-pacific/

Interested in diplomacy, geoeconomics and cooperation in the Indo-Pacific? Tune into this video with Australia’s former Foreign Minister of Australia and current Chancellor of the Australian National University who answers some questions we posed to her as a contribution to the 5th German-Asian Business Dialogue - 4th November 2020.

Ms Bishop, who was also Deputy Leader of the Australian Liberal Party, is widely regarded as one of Australia’s finest Ministers for Foreign Affairs; she is credited with strengthening Australia’s strategic and economic relationships and positioned the country as the largest aid donor to the Indo-Pacific region. Under her leadership, Australia’s 2017 Foreign Policy White Paper – a comprehensive policy framework for the subsequent decade – was developed. As the first woman to hold the role of Foreign Minister, she made gender equality and women’s empowerment a key priority in Australia’s foreign policy.

Photo provided by ANU, Office of the Chancellor



The 2020 Konrad Adenauer Lecture, delivered by the Hon Julie Bishop, Chancellor, Australian National University and former Foreign Minister of Australia. (Photo credit: Ben Kopilow, Fusion Photography)

October 2020

Konrad Adenauer Lecture 2020

Multilateralism and Regional Cooperation in Times of Global Crises: Australia and Europe and the International Order

Against the backdrop of an international order under strain, the lecture focused on the kind of international engagement that is needed to move forward as the pandemic has revealed systemic weaknesses in the international order and a long –simmering backlash to ‘hyper-globalization’. Ms Bishop discussed key ingredients for a secure, open, stable and prosperous Indo-Pacific based on the Rules-based International Order- which can only be maintained and strengthened through sustained commitment and ‘brave,

unconditional leadership’. Rebuilding more widespread confidence in the legitimacy and integrity of this order requires a commitment to uphold and strengthen its maintenance.

Alan Gyngell, a prominent Australian foreign policy thinker observed not too long ago that *“No single power will be able to generate the energy needed to shape and sustain a new international order, energy will have to come from a networked grid, not a single power source.”*

This is a fitting conclusion to the theme of the 2020 Konrad Adenauer Lecture in sync with Ms Bishop closing words: despite the myriad of today’s challenges, the foundation we can draw on to move into the future is built on decades of multilateral engagement.

Since these arrangements are anchored in the rule of law, it is the respect for these

“If the Rules-Based Order didn’t exist today, we’d have to invent it”

Hon Julie Bishop
Chancellor, Australian National University and former Foreign Minister of Australia

Right: Ms Virginia Haussegger AM moderating the discussion (Photo credit: Ben Kopilow, Fusion Photography)



qualities that characterize the long-standing and trusted relationship between Australia and Germany. This is the only way forward - as Ms Bishop concluded, *"If the Rules-Based Order didn't exist today, we'd have to invent it"*

The lecture series is the fruit of an ongoing wonderful cooperation with the ANU Centre for European Studies (ANUCES) who has been working with KAS to bring together researchers and policymakers on issues of critical importance in both Europe and Australia. Since the inaugural Konrad Adenauer Lecture took place in November 2017, it has featured a variety of high ranking international speakers.

The lecture was moderated by prominent journalist Virginia Haussegger AM, Chair of the 50/50 Foundation and Chef Editor at BroadAgenda. The Ambassador of the Federal Republic of Germany, Dr Thomas Fitschen delivered the closing remarks in which he highlighted the importance of the institutional aspects of multilateral diplomacy - the rule of law as the cornerstone of the rules-based international order. This means seeing the UN as not just a loose political commitment amongst member states but a binding framework founded on very specific legal obligations that can provide a peaceful and prosperous order if adhered to by all.

Ambassador Dr Thomas Fitschen delivering closing remarks. (Photo credit: Ben Kopilow, Fusion Photography)



Background to the Konrad-Adenauer Lecture Series

The Konrad Adenauer Lecture Series is a platform for strengthening knowledge and understanding of challenges and interests common to Germany and Australia and their respective regions of Europe and the Indo-Pacific. Since the inaugural Konrad Adenauer Lecture took place in November 2017 it has presented a variety of high ranking international speakers. The establishment of the prestigious annual Konrad Adenauer Lecture Series was the culmination of an ongoing collaboration between the ANU Centre for European Studies (ANUCES) and the Konrad-

Adenauer-Stiftung (KAS). Over a number of years ANUCES and KAS have fruitfully worked to bring together researchers and policymakers on issues of critical importance in both Europe and Australia. Their collaborative events and publications have promoted dialogue among scholars and practitioners to address common problems and identify shared interests. ANUCES and KAS formalised their partnership through their commitment to this annual, high-profile lecture series and accompanying publications.



Virginia Haussegger AM, Prof Brian Schmidt, Dr Beatrice Gorawantschy, Ambassador Dr Thomas Fitschen and Anne McNaughton (from left to right) (Photo credit: Ben Kopilow, Fusion Photography)



Photo Credit: Alex Boyd (via unsplash)

Australia's 2020 Defence Strategic Update: Navigating the 'Grey Zone' into the Future?

"Ladies and gentlemen, that future is now... the world that we grew up in is no more... we have to define a new, rules-based order and encourage, very strongly, all major state actors to accord with these rules"

The Hon Linda Reynolds, Australian Minister of Defence, in a speech on July 2, 2020

Australia is making fundamental changes to its strategic orientation and defence capabilities in order to adapt to a changing security landscape in the Indo-Pacific. Following on from (not superseding) the 2016 Defence White Paper, The Defence Strategic Update, launched on July 1, outlines the challenges in Australia's strategic environment and their implications for Defence planning. This goes beyond military hardware purchases and includes important issues such as defence diplomacy and building regional relationships (including among ASEAN countries).

Self-reliance and co-dependence have for a long time been the axes of the debate around

the ANZUS security alliance. It appears this has only gotten more complex now as the Update points to unresolved questions in regards to the need for nuclear capabilities and more importantly, whether Australia and the US are even able to hold a sustained technological advantage in the Indo-Pacific. For the future, increased engagement with like-minded nations will become more targeted in defining what building cooperative networks around the shared goal of an open Indo-Pacific means specifically.

Accordingly, as NATO and the EU are also configuring new defence capabilities and reorient their strategies to adapt to the major strategic realignment underway, Australia may well be looking for new working relationships. The increasing engagement between NATO and Australia, culminating in the Individual Partnership and Cooperation Program Agreement signed on Secretary General Stoltenberg's 2019 Australian visit may indeed signal deepening engagement in the Indo-Pacific.

November 2020

A Dialogue with the Defence Ministers of Australia and Germany:

"The Indo-Pacific: Geostrategic Challenges and Opportunities for Australia and Germany"

KAS Australia and the Pacific, in partnership with the Australian Strategic Policy Institute (ASPI), brought together The Honourable Annegret Kramp-Karrenbauer, Federal Minister of Defence, Germany and Senator the Honourable Linda Reynolds CSC, Minister for Defence, Australia for a hybrid dialogue on the strategic outlook in the Indo-Pacific and the potential of Australian-German Defence relations. The discussion was moderated by ASPI's Executive Director Peter Jennings, with KAS Australia & The Pacific Director Dr Beatrice Gorawantschy introducing the Ministers and delivering the vote of thanks.

In light of the recently released German Government Policy Guidelines on the Indo-Pacific and the Australian Government's Strategic Update 2020, the Ministers discussed their countries' respective approaches to a rapidly evolving strategic environment. Minister Reynolds explained that changes in the strategic environment required adjustments to the prevailing modus

operandi: how militaries innovate, in terms of capabilities, organization and long-term strategic thinking. As a reflection of this need for greater prioritization, she referred to the key tenets of the Strategic Update to "shape the region, deter actions against Australia's interests and, when required, respond with military force". The Update made clear, according to the Minister, that these are underpinned by a "shared respect for the sovereignty of all nations", which above all constitutes the foundation of "what unites us".

Similarly, threats to sovereignty were also a key theme in the German Defence Minister's address, which she delivered as part of a 'virtual tour' to the region. Minister Kramp-Karrenbauer, referring to Russia's occupation of Crimea, highlighted that for the first time in a long while "we are seeing territorial orders changed by violence again in Europe". She drew attention to the importance of ensuring freedom of navigation in the Indo-Pacific as a parallel. Given the serious

German Federal Minister of Defence Annegret Kramp-Karrenbauer speaking via video link to attendees at the ASPI Meeting Centre. (Photo Credit: Rohan Thomson, Pew Pew Studio)





Clockwise: Peter Jennings, ASPI Executive Director; Senator the Honourable Linda Reynolds CSC, Minister for Defence, Australia; the Honourable Annegret Kramp-Karrenbauer, Federal Minister of Defence, Germany. (Photo Credit: Rohan Thomson, Pew Pew Studio)



German Federal Minister of Defence Annegret Kramp-Karrenbauer in an exclusive interview with Laura Tingle, Chief Political Correspondent of the ABC (Photo Credit: Rohan Thomson, Pew Pew Studio)

challenge to the effectiveness of conventional military capabilities posed by the rapid pace of technological adaption and invention, Minister Kramp-Karrenbauer also stressed the need for greater cooperation in the cyber and information environment in this regard.

This comes against the backdrop of a growing recognition in Germany that, in light of systemic rivalries and a changing transatlantic relationship, there is a need for Germany to shoulder more responsibility through its foreign and defence policy. Minister Kramp-Karrenbauer had previously advocated for Germany (and Europe) to play a more assertive role and “produce security and stability where it matters”.

The German Government’s new Policy Guidelines for the Indo-Pacific, released in September 2020, signal a distinct commitment on Germany’s part to actively contribute to shaping the rules-based order - whose future is seen to be determined in the Indo-Pacific. Under the heading ‘Germany-Europe-Asia: Shaping the 21st Century Together’,

the Guidelines are intended to pave the way for closer cooperation with partners in the region – in particular ASEAN and the so-called Partners across the Globe. Minister Kramp-Karrenbauer, who had chosen Canberra as her first port of call on this ‘visit’ to the region, outlined the notable shift from the transatlantic area to the Indo-Pacific: she defined the region as a political and economic centre of gravity where the rules-based order of tomorrow would be secured. Identifying security and defence as priority areas for this end, the Minister reiterated Germany’s readiness to expand cooperation “with those who share our values in the region, intensify our military contacts and promote dialogue on matters of security.” She flagged the expansion of Germany’s maritime presence in the Indo-Pacific as a key avenue - through for example joint exercises, training, embedding German officers in Australian Navy units or dispatching liaison officers to multilateral organisations in the region.

“Both Ministers emphasized the value of retaining close ties with the United States, as a key pillar of a secure global order, also through cooperation via NATO, but respectively stressed the need for developing greater.”

This commitment to increased German engagement in the Indo-Pacific was warmly welcomed by the Australian side, with Minister Reynolds affirming that, especially on key issues of future security such as critical technologies and raw earths, there was “no better place to start cooperation with than Germany.” The Executive Director of the Australian Strategic Policy Institute Peter Jennings thanked Minister Kramp-Karrenbauer with “Minister, I hope that you will indeed make Australia the first port of call for this increased cooperation.”

Both Ministers emphasized the value of retaining close ties with the United States, as a key pillar of a secure global order, also through cooperation via NATO, but respectively stressed the need for developing greater. This includes the need to re-define what self-reliance means in a rapidly changing, post-COVID-19 world - where the risks and dangers to our security extend well beyond traditional military threats to pandemics, climate change and the resulting food, energy or water shortages, or disinformation campaigns. As Dr Gorawantschy drew out in her final remarks, in a highly interdependent world where economic well-being, political stability and security are interlinked, resilience and sustainability are key.

The dialogue highlighted once more that amongst the many shared concerns about the future of the rules-based order, also many points of commonality and opportunities for increased strategic cooperation in the Indo-Pacific can be found.

Cybersecurity

Katja Theodorakis

Senior Programme Coordinator for Research and Analysis (Foreign/Security Policy)

In a hyper-connected and highly networked world, technology enables individuals, civil society, non-state actors and institutions to impact on social and political agendas more than ever before. And since global powershifts manifest in competing political models that seek to challenge the liberal order - developments in cyberspace also reflect these power dynamics. The Covid-19 pandemic has highlighted not only the interconnectedness of the world but also the associated vulnerabilities.

“A specific common concern is for example threats to critical infrastructure, and more specifically threats from cyberspace that could halt the successful implementation of energy transition that both countries have in common.”

Julia Schuetze

Project Manager International Cybersecurity Policy,
Stiftung Neue Verantwortung, Berlin

Our analysis seeks to cover these crucial aspects of contemporary cybersecurity challenges - ranging from the geopolitical level and questions about the shifting global order and international cyber norms to offensive cyber operations, private sector/industry perspectives, as well as the challenges of building the cyber workforce of the future. Grappling with cybersecurity therefore also involves addressing underlying questions on sovereignty, trade-offs between privacy and security, transparency and accountability.

As value partners, Germany and Australia share a very similar approach based on their common value basis yet how 'cybersecurity is done' at the policy level varies - and it is important to better understand the key differences in these approaches in order to capture their nuances and inherent possibilities. Accordingly, we see tremendous value in comparative analyses and an exchange of perspectives especially when there are diverging approaches on a certain issue - and our programs are geared towards that.

In particular, one key objective of our cybersecurity focus is to assess how and why Australia and Germany/Europe may take similar or different approaches, looking at the varied circumstances they may encounter in specific areas.

August & September 2020

3rd Europe-Australia 1.5 track Cybersecurity Dialogue

'Cybersecurity in Crisis Times - A Way Forward for Europe and Australia' A Virtual Discussion Series in Three Parts

The annual KAS Australia-Europe 1.5 track Cybersecurity Dialogue, in 2020 already in its third iteration, aims to bring together senior government representatives, policy makers, academic experts, practitioners and members of the diplomatic corps to share their views, develop better understandings and explore how cooperation could be strengthened.

Usually, this is achieved through a combination of roundtables, an in-depth seminar and meetings at various relevant institutions and ministries, as well as the respective federal, state and EU Parliaments - alternating between Canberra/Sydney and Berlin/Brussels as locations.

The 2020 dialogue took place in a slightly altered, virtual format - the overarching theme of 'Cybersecurity in Crisis Times- A Way Forward for Europe and Australia' was addressed through three separate interactive discussion sessions with speakers from Europe and Australia.

The Covid-19 pandemic has highlighted not only the interconnectedness of the world but also the associated vulnerabilities. Even before, it has been argued that greater cooperation and multilateral engagement are necessary on a broader geopolitical level. This has been especially important for Europe, whose identity is founded in a vision of cooperation and openness, as highlighted by EU Commission President Ursula von der Leyen.

Multilateralism is seen as the only way forward:

“Effective collective action can meet the risks of disease, climate change, cyber-attacks, nuclear proliferation, and terrorism. No single country on its own can make itself secure; unilateralism is not a serious policy path. This is what global governance (not government) is all about. The

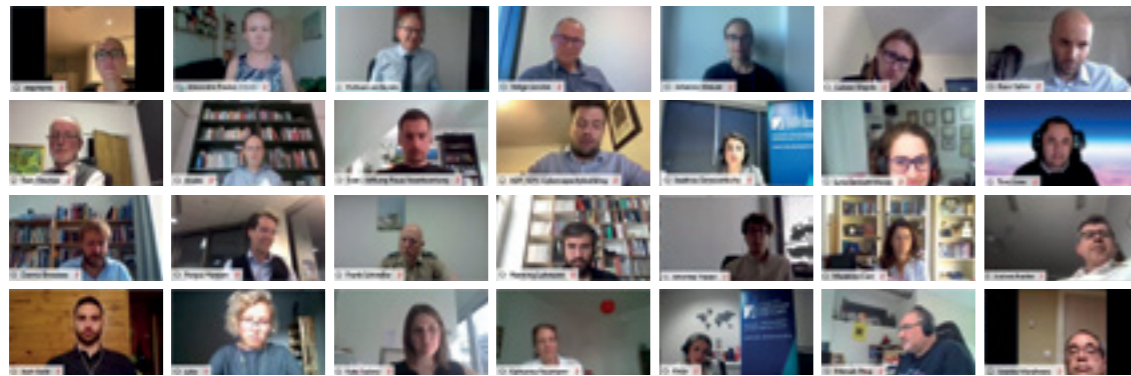
form of the arrangements can and should be tailored to the threat and to those willing and able to cooperate, but there is no viable alternative to multilateralism.”

— Deglobalization and Its Discontents by
Richard N. Haass

This requires us to look at how we manage global interdependence, particularly in the area of cyberspace, as a politically contested space shaped by hyper-connectivity and lack of overarching global governance. The topic for the entire dialogue/discussion series hence centred around multilateral and multi-stakeholder engagement and the potential for increasing cooperation as the COVID-19 pandemic has widened the attack surface for cyber operations. While this first discussion in the series focused on global cyber norms, subsequent sessions were respectively dedicated to joint responses to large-scale cyber incidents and the EU's toolkit as well as a discussion on emerging technologies and issues of Digital Autonomy for Australia and Europe.

We were supported in the conceptualisation and organization by three experts from the Stiftung Neue Verantwortung - a Berlin think tank at the intersection of technology and society: Julia Schuetze, Alexandra Paulus and Kate Saslow who chaired these sessions.

This event was held under Chatham House Rule (not open to the public). Experts were invited to these discussions as part of a selected group to allow for the opportunity to actively engage and share insights.



Session One

The opening discussion was on ‘Covid-19 and the road to global cyber norms: The case of banning cyber operations against public health infrastructures’.

Following multiple cyber operations targeting public health infrastructures, various groups of states and non-state actors condemned such attacks and even advanced concrete proposals for establishing a norm banning

cyber operations against public health infrastructures. This case study raises interesting questions and implications regarding the process of establishing global cyber norms at the United Nations and beyond. For example, what steps would be necessary to make such a norm sufficiently robust? How is this relevant for European-Australian cooperation in this matter?

Input Speakers:



Alexandra Paulus (Session Chair)

PhD candidate in international relations at Chemnitz University of Technology, Fellow at Stiftung Neue Verantwortung and a member of the KAS doctoral college “Security and Development Policy in the 21st century”



Ms Johanna Weaver

Head of the Australian delegation to the UN Open-ended Working Group on cyber norms, Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade



Mr Wolfram von Heynitz

Head of the Cyber Policy Coordination Staff, German Federal Foreign Office



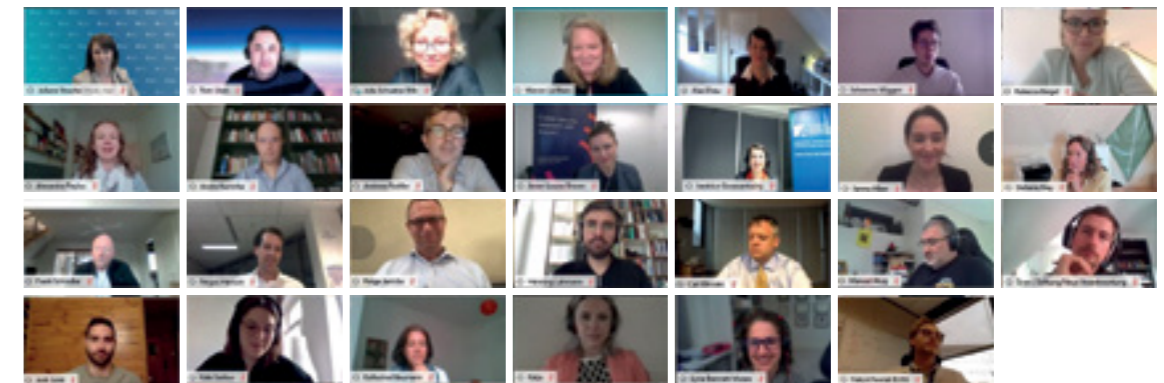
Mr Lukasz Olejnik

Independent adviser and researcher



Mr Bart Hogeveen

Head of Cyber Capacity building, International Cyber Policy Centre, Australian Strategic Policy Institute



Session Two

Dialogue on Joint Responses to Large Scale Cyber Incidents.

With the EU Cyber Diplomacy toolbox and the blueprint for EU-coordinated responses in case of large scale incidents, the EU has established a set of internal tools to enable a wider EU-level response. In the past, EU member states have joint ‘Coalitions of the Willing and Capable’, some of which were led by Australia, e.g. the NotPetya coordinated attribution effort. This was then followed up by an EU statement.

As the EU is internally practicing their responses, aiming to go as far as sanctions, this development impacts the relationship with third countries. How do EU level responses impact coordination and cooperation with third countries like Australia? Input speakers and participants talked through different scenarios and discuss coordination and cooperation options and their challenges. This brought together diplomatic, practitioner and academic perspectives from key EU member states and Australia.

Input Speakers:



“Looking specifically at Germany’s foreign policy responses, its engagement and diplomatic efforts on cybersecurity, traditionally centre around developing norms to increase the stability of cyberspace, freedom of expression and capacity building in other countries...”

Julia Schuetze (Session Chair)

Project manager Cyber Foreign Policy at SNV and member of EU Cyber Direct



Manon Le Blanc

Senior Policy Officer at European External Action Service



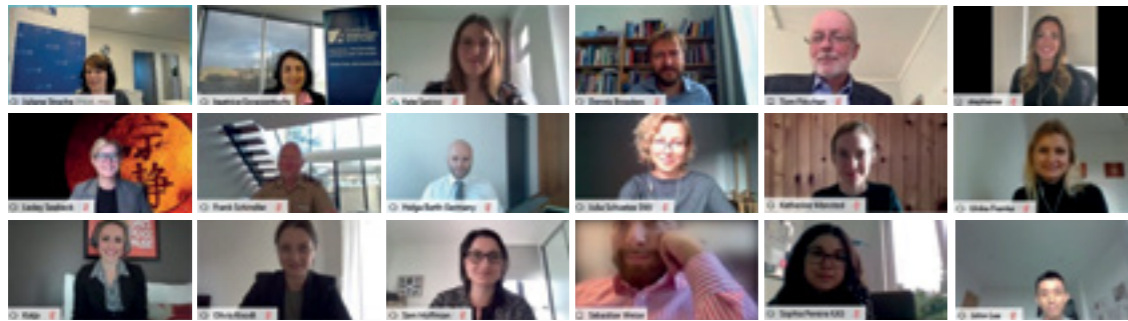
Anne-Louise Brown

Head of Corporate Affairs, Australian Cybersecurity CRC



Dr André Barrinha

Senior Lecturer in International Relations, Department of Politics, Languages and International Studies, University of Bath



Session Three

Dialogue on Emerging Tech: Issues of Digital Autonomy for Australia and Europe

In regards to emerging technologies, the European Union and Australia both face common challenges in a hyper-connected, yet increasingly contested world where global networks are being leveraged for strategic advantage. As digital technologies and strategic objectives are becoming increasingly intertwined amidst heightened geopolitical competition, achieving digital sovereignty (or autonomy) has become a key objective. In this regard, the Covid-19 pandemic has only highlighted the vulnerabilities inherent in global interdependencies and intensified existing debates about greater resilience, autonomy and various forms of digital decoupling.

While both countries/regions are well-placed to access leading research and development, technological independence remains a particular challenge for the EU as well as for Australia (and its role in the Asia-Pacific). This includes issues related to some of the core innovations of the fourth industrial revolution, such as artificial intelligence; robotics/autonomous weapons; quantum or cryptographic technologies; (global) digital supply chains; the integration of such advanced technologies in smart city infrastructure; takeovers of high-tech companies in sensitive/strategically consequential sectors.

“While both countries/regions are well-placed to access leading research and development, technological independence remains a particular challenge for the EU as well as for Australia.”

This session addressed the most important aspects of emerging technologies for either region and how these affect their respective notions of digital sovereignty. Issues that were discussed amongst leading experts ran along the following lines of inquiry:

What exactly does digital sovereignty or autonomy mean for the European Union and for Australia? Do the two regions face similar challenges?

Are there critical thresholds for determining what constitutes technological dependence, ie what technologies can be imported?

How is the increasingly global footprint of Chinese assertions to ‘cyber sovereignty’ affecting this? In conjunction with the impact of the networked diffusion of power in digital politics?

What governance/regulatory structures need to be in place to effectively respond to these challenges?

Is there space or opportunity for greater strategic (research/regulatory) cooperation, also through international/regional fora and taskforces such as eg the nascent Global Partnership on Artificial Intelligence (GPAI)?

Input Speakers:



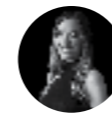
Kate Saslow (Session Chair)
Project Manager Artificial Intelligence and Foreign Policy at Stiftung Neue Verantwortung (SNV) Berlin



Dr Samantha Hoffman
ASPI -Analyst on China’s tech enhanced authoritarianism



Prof Lesley Seebeck
Prof of Cybersecurity Practice and CEO of the Cyber Institute at the Australian National University.



Dr Stephenie Andral
Head of Strategic Policy, Cyber Security Cooperative Research Centre



Kaan Sahin
Research Fellow for Technology and Foreign Policy, German Council on Foreign Relations (DGAP) and EU Council Strategic Advisor for Cyber Diplomacy/EU Presidency at Germany’s Federal Foreign Office



Dr Ulrike Franke
Policy fellow at the European Council on Foreign Relations (ECFR)

“All this means that we cannot easily reduce the challenges presented by cyber, or digital disruption, to a mere technology issue – as much as governments, perhaps understandably, would like to do so. We need to foreswear hastiness, and to move with greater deliberation: there’s much to be gained from a more patient and careful response, not least a deeper understanding of the issues and greater scope to bring people on board....

Nor is cyber simply about security. Cyber is about adaptiveness, and resilience. Doing cyber well means strategy, not simply security. Strategy emphasises the proactive; security the reactive. Cyber is fundamentally about the world we want to live in, the societies we want our children to grow up in, the nature of economic growth, and the nature of fundamental human rights and the values we hold dear. And that means contemplating deeply what those values are, and reflecting them through the people we educate, the institutions we shape, and the elections we run to ensure that they are, in turn, reflected by those we elect as our representatives.”

Dr Lesley Seebeck
Professor of Cybersecurity Practice and Inaugural CEO Cyber Institute Australian National University

Focus on Tech, Security, Privacy and Risk

Aside from our Cybersecurity Dialogue Series, we were fortunate to have worked with various cooperation partners and experts on a range of current topics in 2020. Here are some excerpts from those projects:

Cooperation with the Cyber Security Cooperative Research Centre (CSCRC):

“Risk is the key factor – risk to Australia’s digital sovereignty and the integrity of our nation’s critical infrastructure. In 2018, when high-risk vendors were banned from partaking in the development of Australia’s 5G network, risk mitigation was the central argument. But it wasn’t new. In 2012 high-risk vendors were also banned from developing the National Broadband Network due to risk. The key difference was that in 2012, there was very little public discourse regarding the decision.”

Rachael Falk

CEO Australian Cybersecurity Cooperative Research Centre CSCRC.



‘Normal’ Authority – Who’s Got the Power in a Democratic Information Environment

In a guest contribution to the GNET Forum on behalf of the CSCRC, Katja Theodorakis delved into the challenges associated with regulating the online information environment.

“Navigating the inherent tension in safeguarding online spaces from violent extremist content while adhering to the foundational principles of the liberal order is seemingly a Catch-22. Technology can only be democratic if tempered by a multi-faceted and accountable political process. This should include citizens and their political representatives, rather than just “consumers and Silicon Valley thought leaders”. How to implement the rule of law in the digital sphere should therefore be grounded in discussions about who gets to set the rules and norms defining online public life. Such ‘normative power’ – and especially its operationalisation in online infrastructure – is crucial to responsible democratic citizenship.”

“There is some difference between how the relationship between cyber security and data protection laws is perceived in Germany and Australia: In Germany, these are treated as distinct legal and policy domains – the former concerns critical infrastructure and technical protections and the latter protection of personal data. In Australia, the two issues are often intertwined in policy debates...”

...In this context the question was also raised in discussions whether cyber security and data protection requirements are making the EU more or less competitive. Some argue that the GDPR is a very significant compliance issue and may well have negative impacts on innovation. However, cyber security is about more than compliance so it is hard to measure a negative impact on innovation. While member states set technical standards within common requirements, the framework in the EU remains complex.”

Professor Lyria

Benett Moses, Director Allens Innovations Hub, University of New South Wales Sydney



Photo Credit: Tobias Tullius (via unsplash)

Beyond 5G: “Technological sovereignty” in Europe and Australia

Isabel Skierka from the Digital Society Institute at ESMT Berlin and former KAS-ASPI fellow, wrote for KAS:

“Although on the surface, the debate about 5G security centers around cyber security and national security concerns, its major strategic dimension is that of what the European Commission refers to as “tech-nological sovereignty”.¹⁷ Technological sovereignty is a widely used political term that remains yet to be defined, let alone operationalized. In European political discourse, it refers to the ability of an actor (a state, a company or an individual) to act and de-cide independently in the digital realm. A precondition for technological sovereignty is a certain degree of control over key com-petences and technologies as well as the ability to decide among alternative technologies and capabilities provided by trust-worthy partners, and the ability to further develop these, if necessary.¹⁸ In this context, sovereignty does not equal autarky. Rather, it consists precisely in the ability of entering into dependencies while being able to master them through the capacity to assess and (to a certain degree) control technologies and capabilities.”

“This difference of experience and stages of decision-making [in Australia and Europe respectively] opens up strong opportunities for deepening an already strong two-way dialogue. There is significant scope to expand the number of issues that states like Germany and Australia could collaborate on when it comes to China. The theft of intellectual property and 5G are great places to start. But there will inevitably be more as China continues to pursue its ambition to be a global power that weighs as heavily on Europe as it already does in Asia.

The KAS-sponsored visit to Germany and Brussels was a wonderful opportunity to hear first-hand how Germans and EU officials are seeing the rise of China. While there are still marked differences, the trend is very clear. Everyone is starting to reassess China’s trajectory and its willingness to play by the accepted rules. There is much that liked-minded states could do to ensure the rules-based order is protected and strengthened through this tumultuous period.”

Fergus Hanson

Director International Cyber Policy Centre at the Australian Strategic Policy Institute



Photo Credit: Micael Navarro (via unsplash)

Terrorism and Counter-Terrorism

Katja Theodorakis

Senior Programme Coordinator for Research and Analysis (Foreign/Security Policy)

Our analysis of terrorism centres around the key topics of the contemporary threat landscape, such as emerging forms of extremism and their ideological fusion, whether there are differences in disrupting the radicalization process online, in prisons or local communities or understanding cooperation among terrorist and crime networks/actors.

This includes how global and local dynamics interact jihadi, in traditional conflict zones/crisis hotspots and beyond – extending the focus to how these forces converge and connect to opposition, even attacks against liberal democracies.

Following the Christchurch attack, it has become increasingly clear that in order to fully grasp today's realities of terrorism, it is necessary to cast the net wider; this means examining specific trends, both emerging and continuing as they manifest themselves across the ideological spectrum.

Given the adaptability, innovation and seeming resilience of terrorist movements and groups, it is often assumed that our responses to these threats are reactive rather than proactive – especially with the added uncertainty caused by the COVID-19 pandemic and its diffused concomitant crises. But 18 years of the Global War on Terror and a significant investment in counter-terrorism practices have provided a myriad of insights and experiences – both practically and conceptually. These can benefit the debates on how to mitigate the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic on terrorism dynamics and the growing threat right-wing extremism poses to liberal society.

“Following the Christchurch attack, it has become increasingly clear that in order to fully grasp today's realities of terrorism, it is necessary to cast the net wider”

Through our work we seek to pool expertise from across Australia and Europe as two closely connected regions. Our aim is to critically examine key developments and existing methods and initiatives, including experiences from the operational level, in order to shed light on how current perspectives and practices could be further developed to meet evolving challenges.

Our thematic focus in 2020 was centred on capturing recent developments in the extremism space following the outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic and the consequences, especially in the form of socio-political fissures and identity politics, this may have on national security dynamics.

‘Tending That Garden’ - Australia’s New Cybersecurity Strategy Amidst a Changing International Society

“We want to see international engagement framed by agreed rules and norms, not crude economic or political coercion. But nor do we practically think longing for the past amounts to a strategy. The configuration of power in global politics has changed. We have to deal with the world as it is, not as we'd like it to be. The liberal rules and norms of what has been known as the American Century are under assault. The jungle is growing back’, as Robert Kagan has observed.” And we need to tend to the gardening.”

— Australian Prime Minister Scott Morrison in an address to the Aspen Security Forum, August 5 2020

Referencing a classic Australian security scholar, Prime Minister Scott Morrison emphasized the need for pragmatically defending ‘international society’ which - as conceived by Hedley Bull - is based on a ‘common set of rules’. This statement, as well as Morrison’s ‘tending the garden’ metaphor, reflect a note-worthy position on the dialectic between power on one hand and rules, norms and values in the international system on the other.

One key manifestation of the international system being under strain was, alongside disinformation, an ‘increase in the frequency

and sophistication of cyber-attacks’. This was well-timed with the release of Australia’s long-awaited new cybersecurity strategy - four years after the Turnbull government set out Australia’s initial vision for a ‘cybersmart’ nation.

Given the repeated emphasis on increased cooperation with like-minded countries in recent government discourse, a comparison to developments in Europe is also relevant. As the EU imposed cyber sanctions for the first time this month, experts and policy makers internationally are debating what this means in terms of the Union’s strategic orientation and willingness to connect hard security measures and soft power/diplomacy. The action was ‘welcomed’ by Australia and ‘applauded’ by the US as the right step to more assertiveness. As the official DFAT statement noted, “Australia reaffirms our shared commitment to freedom and democratic values, and a likeminded approach to cyber affairs, with the EU.”

Questions regarding their efficacy and whether sanctions need to be complemented by more offensive actions. Plenty for Australia and Europe to discuss on how to best tend the garden - or tame the jungle, depending on one’s perspective.

■ [View the Digital Snapshot.](https://wakelet.com/wake/sKu3NnAVw35EKYtRiTo6I)
wakelet.com/wake/sKu3NnAVw35EKYtRiTo6I

August & September 2020

6th ASPI-KAS Europe-Australia Counterterrorism Dialogue

The Impact of the COVID-19 Pandemic on Extremism Dynamics: Towards National Resilience

The Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung's (KAS) Regional Program Australia and the Pacific in cooperation with The Australian Strategic Policy Institute (ASPI) held their annual Australia-Europe Counter Terrorism Dialogue in virtual form in 2020 – through two separate discussions on the 18th of August and 1st of September 2020.

Keynote speakers were live-streamed from Europe joining a selected group of Australian experts, CT practitioners and representatives of the European diplomatic corps.

The topic for the entire dialogue/discussion series centred around building national resilience as the COVID-19 crisis is impacting dynamics of (violent) extremism and terrorism – which thrive on crisis narratives. While the first session focused on the ideological dynamics, the second session was dedicated to developments in the operational environment.

The overarching theme of these sessions “Towards National Resilience” provided the opportunity for all participants to consider the global policy and leadership challenges in building community strength and resilience in the continuing fight against terrorism.

For the first session, the Australian and German Keynote Speakers were Heather Cook, Deputy Director ASIO and Dr Daniel Heinke, Chief of Bureau of Operations, Bremen State Police. In the second session, Ian McCartney, Deputy Commissioner Investigations at the Australian Federal Police and Wil van Gemert, Deputy Executive Director, Operations Directorate Europol delivered the keynote addresses.

On both occasions, keynote speeches were followed by a discussion with a select group of experts, moderated by Leanne Close, Head of ASPI's CT Program and Katja Theodorakis, Senior Program Coordinator for Foreign and Security Policy at KAS.



From left to right: Katja Theodorakis, Senior Programme Coordinator, KAS Australia & the Pacific; Leanne Close, then Head of Counter Terrorism, ASPI; Peter Jennings, Executive Director, ASPI; HE Dr Thomas Fitschen, German Ambassador; Heather Cook, Deputy Director ASIO and Dr Beatrice Gorawantschy, Director KAS Australia & the Pacific



Top: (from left to right) Katja Theodorakis, Senior Programme Coordinator, KAS Australia & the Pacific; HE Dr Michael Pulch, Ambassador of the European Union; Leanne Close, then Head of Counter Terrorism, ASPI; Ian McCartney, Deputy Commissioner Investigations, AFP; Representative of the AFP; and Dr Beatrice Gorawantschy, Director KAS Australia & the Pacific

Bottom: (Left) Katja Theodorakis with Wil van Gemert, Deputy Executive Director, Operations Directorate Europol (Right) Leanne Close with Daniel Heinke, Chief of Bureau of Operations, Bremen State Police

The annual ASPI-KAS Counter-Terrorism Dialogue, now in its sixth iteration, seeks to foster knowledge exchange on continuing and emerging forms of terrorism and violent extremism across the ideological spectrum, exploring how to proactively deal with an ever-evolving threat landscape. Trust and openness are two important ingredients in any cooperation venture.

A tried and proven format, it brings together policymakers, representatives from relevant government institutions, academic experts and practitioners from Australia, Germany and other European countries for frank discussions.

Through the continuity afforded by this dialogue series, an effective process has been established in which participants are able to engage in a frank exchange of ideas and explore options for how to best deal with contemporary terrorism trends.



Digging Deeper on National Security and Resilience

In Conversation with Leanne Close APM, then Head of Counter-Terrorism at the Australian Strategic Policy Institute

As we sought to capture evolving extremism trends resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic 2020, we were particularly interested in the potential future effects on national security dynamics –also how we even define national security in light of such profound shocks to the global order and domestic socio-political landscapes.

For this end – and in another innovative first - we engaged with current trends in terrorism/counter-terrorism through a special interview for our upcoming PERISCOPE Video Series, again with fantastic support from our cooperation partner ASPI.

Here, Katja and Leanne dig deeper on some questions that came up during the 2020 Dialogue as Leanne shares insights from her vast experience as former Deputy Commissioner National Security of the Australian Federal Police on some of the challenges for policing that have emerged

through the COVID-19 crisis - particularly in terms of social cohesion, maintaining trust between citizens and police in the face of protests and resistance to governments' COVID measures. This is an important issue internationally, given the emergence of protest movements in for instance the US or Germany: it is instructive to look at broader trends comparatively – considering there has overall been less popular resistance in Australia than elsewhere, some even speak of a return of trust in public institutions. By discussing the developments behind the 'Towards National Resilience' concept of the 2020 Dialogue and Special Report, some key ideas and themes from the dialogue could be examined further.



CT Publication

The Impact of the COVID-19 Pandemic on Extremism Dynamics: Towards National Resilience

Customarily, our CT dialogues with ASPI are flanked by a Special Report that covers the key themes of the dialogue in order to capture the main ideas discussed amongst participants (under Chatham House Rule) and link them to wider policy-relevant debates.

Under the title "The Impact of the COVID-19 Pandemic on Extremism Dynamics: Towards National Resilience", the 2020 publication was co-authored by KAS' Senior Program Coordinator Katja Theodorakis and then ASPI's head of CT Leanne Close.

The report focuses on the overarching theme of the 2020 Australia-Europe Counterterrorism dialogue - building national resilience, including consideration of the impact of the Covid-19 crisis on the dynamics of violent extremism and terrorism - and also connects to the issues discussed at the 5th Dialogue in Europe in 2019.

Energy Policy

Eva U Wagner

Programme Coordinator for Rule of Law, Energy and Development Policy

Energy security and climate change are among the biggest challenges Australia, Germany and New Zealand are facing. In fact, they are global issues that transcend national borders. Yet they are primarily managed at national level.

In an endeavour to overcome borders (and distances) and to foster collaboration between like-minded countries, KAS Australia supports the free exchange of innovative ideas and policy strategies. Energy and climate matters affect the private, public and business sectors alike. They also have a wider impact on foreign and security policy, and give rise to socio-cultural issues. Accordingly, they must be mastered by the political and economic sectors as well as society as a whole.

The German Government has recently released its Guidelines for the Indo-Pacific (including Australia, New Zealand and the South Pacific). The Guidelines inter alia re-affirm Germany's commitment to intensify cooperation with this region in regards to climate protection, climate change adaption, protection of biodiversity, renewable energies and energy efficiency. As far as Australia is concerned, the German Government intends to expand its cooperation in regards to green hydrogen.



June 2020

KAS Regional Project Energy Security and Climate Change

Green Recovery in the Asia-Pacific Region

KAS Australia was pleased to support KAS Regional Project Energy Security and Climate Change Asia-Pacific's (RECAP) online workshop on green recovery in Australia. Various Australian energy policy experts, including a representative from the Victorian State Government, discussed the Australian

public and private sector initiatives towards a greener, more sustainable economy. The workshop was part of a series of workshops on green recovery plans in the Asia-Pacific region held by RECAP with the aim of identifying and comparing various countries' approaches.

July 2020 & October 2020

German-Australian Energy Policy Dialogue 2020

The 2020 KAS Australia & EUCERS Energy Dialogue was implemented by way of two virtual seminars.

The first seminar – held in cooperation with and chaired by the German-Australian Energy Transition Hub – was a closed expert session under Chatham House Rules on the Australian Hydrogen Strategy 2019 and the German and EU Hydrogen Strategies 2020.

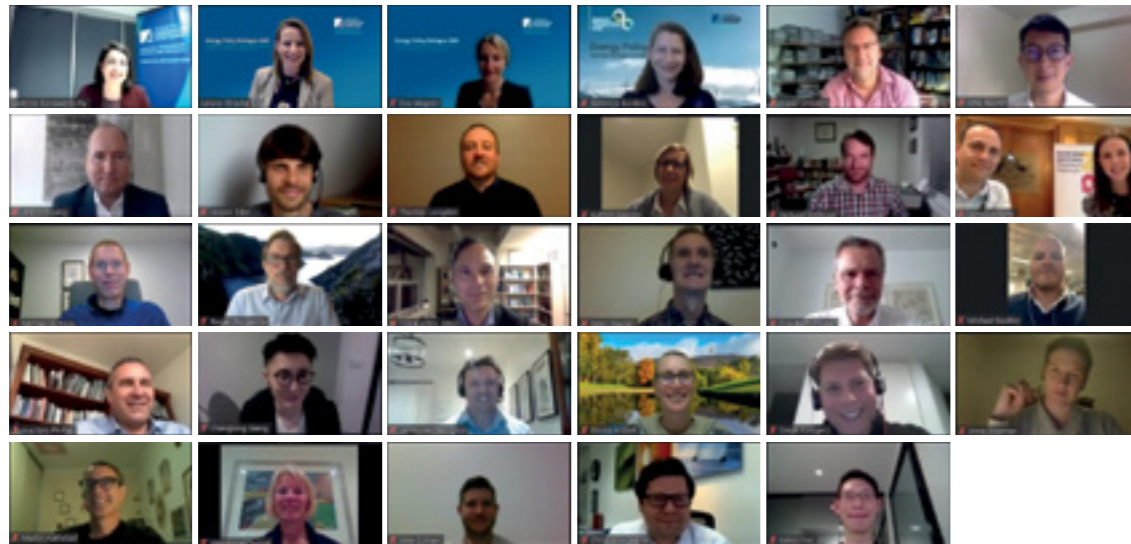
The second seminar – held in cooperation with the Australian National University's Centre for Climate and Energy Policy (ANU CCEP), the German-Australian Chamber of Industry and Commerce (AHK Australien) and the Energy Transition Hub was a public session on The Hydrogen Economy: Prospects For A German-Australian Collaboration.

Attracting more than 100 participants, the event was chaired by **Prof Frank Jotzo**, Director, ANU CCEP and featured the following speakers, panellists and commentators in a lively discussion of the production of hydrogen, the definition of clean hydrogen and the import and export of hydrogen, respectively.


There was also great interest in the ongoing bilateral feasibility study on the export of green hydrogen from Australia to Germany.


German-Australian Energy Policy Dialogue 2020 (Continued)


July 2020





Speakers for the first dialogue were:


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
Ms Rebecca Burdon (Chair)
Managing Director, Energy Transition Hub, University of Melbourne
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
Dr Joachim Pfeiffer MP
Spokesperson for Economic and Energy Affairs of the CDU/CSU Parliamentary Group in the German Bundestag
- 


Dr Thomas Longden
Grand Challenge Fellow, College of Asia & the Pacific, Australian National University (ANU)
- 

Dr Frank Umbach
Research Director – European Centre for Climate, Energy and Resource Security (EUCERS)
- 

Prof Friedbert Pflüger
Director, European Centre for Climate, Energy and Resource Security (EUCERS) and Managing Partner, Bingmann Pflüger International
- 

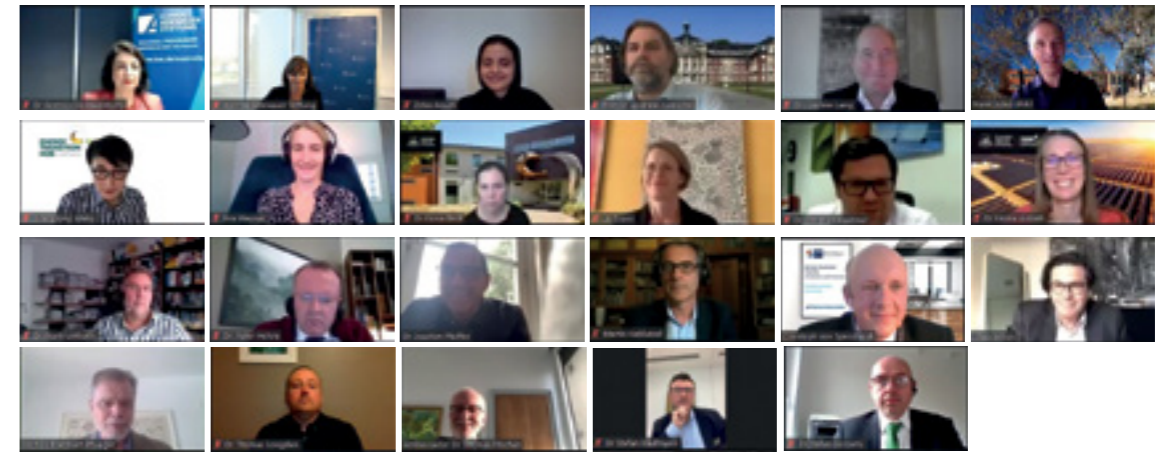
Dr Joachim Lang
Director General and Member of the Presidential Board Executive Board, Federation of German Industries (BDI)
- 

Prof Frank Jotzo
Professor, Crawford School of Public Policy and Director, Centre for Climate & Energy Policy, ANU
- 


Changlong Wang
Researcher, Energy Transition Hub, University of Melbourne
- 


Prof Peter Rayner
Director, Climate and Energy College, University of Melbourne


October 2020





Speakers for the first dialogue were:


- 


Prof Frank Jotzo (Chair)
Professor, Crawford School of Public Policy and Director, Centre for Climate & Energy Policy, ANU
- 


Christoph von Spesshardt
Executive Director, AHK Australia
- 

Dr Joachim Pfeiffer MP
Spokesperson for Economic and Energy Affairs of the CDU/CSU Parliamentary Group in the German Bundestag
- 

Jo Evans
Deputy Secretary, Climate Change and Energy Innovation, Department of Industry, Science, Energy and Resources (DISER)
- 

Dr Stefan Kaufmann MP
Innovation Commissioner of the German Government for Green Hydrogen
- 

Innes Willox
Chief Executive, Australian Industry Group
- 

Dr Joachim Lang
Director General and Member of the Presidential Board Executive Board, Federation of German Industries (BDI)
- 

Prof Friedbert Pflüger
Director, European Centre for Climate, Energy and Resource Security (EUCERS) and Managing Partner, Bingmann Pflüger International

PERISCOPE Briefs 2020

The first three editions of KAS Australia's newly developed Periscope Brief Series were dedicated to the topic of energy and, more precisely, hydrogen. The first edition provides the reader with in-depth analyses of Germany and the European Union's Hydrogen Strategies, both of which were adopted in 2020. The second edition analyses the Australian Hydrogen Strategy, issued in 2019. The analyses highlight complementary competencies and needs in Germany, the EU and Australia's hydrogen sectors. The third edition deals with synergies between hydrogen export and domestic energy transition in Australia and analyses by way of various scenarios the potential impact of hydrogen exports on local energy systems.

Analysis #1

Germany and the EU's Hydrogen Strategies in Perspective – The Need for a Sober Analysis

Dr Frank Umbach
Dr Joachim Pfeiffer MP

[...] In the beginning of June 2020, delayed by more than five months, the German Government finally agreed on its long debated and disputed national hydrogen strategy. The delay was caused by major disputes primarily between Germany's Ministry for Economic Affairs and Energy and the Ministry for the Environment. The core of the dispute was whether Germany should only support 'Green Hydrogen' or be technologically neutral, which would also allow research, development and pilot projects of other hydrogen options.



Germany and the EU's Hydrogen Strategies in Perspective – The Need for Sober Analyses

Dr Frank Umbach* / Dr Joachim Pfeiffer**

For the last two years, hydrogen has enjoyed an unprecedented political and industry hype around the world. The number of companies which joined the International Hydrogen Council, for instance, increased from 13 to 81 in the last three years. Hydrogen is regarded as a clean, secure and affordable energy carrier (similar to electricity) rather than an energy source and an industrial raw material, which may play a key role and be the 'missing link' as feedstock in hard-to-abate sectors such as steel-making and refineries, ammonia production and chemical industry in decarbonised energy systems.

In the future, it may also fuel buses, trains and trucks and even ships and planes. By mid-2019, 50 new targets, mandates and policy incentives were initiated globally to directly support hydrogen as a clean, sustainable and resilient chemical energy carrier. In 2012, a 'hydrogen Council' with relevant private-sector actors was set up. In 2019, the World Energy Council started a 'Hydrogen Global Initiative'. Of the G20 member countries, nine had already national roadmaps and eleven had support policies for hydrogen in place.

In the beginning of June, delayed by more than five months, the German Government finally agreed on its long debated and disputed national hydrogen strategy. The delay was caused by major disputes primarily between Germany's Ministry for Economic Affairs and Energy and the Ministry for the Environment. The core of the dispute was whether Germany should only support 'Green Hydrogen' or be technologically neutral, which would also allow research, development and pilot projects of other hydrogen options (see Figure 1).

* Dr Frank Umbach - Research Director - European Centre for Climate, Energy and Resource Security (EUCERS)
** Dr Joachim Pfeiffer MP - Spokesperson for Energy and Economic Affairs, CDU/CSU Parliamentary Group, German Bundestag
1 See The Federal Government of Germany, 'The National Hydrogen Strategy', Berlin, June 2020
2 See also F Umbach, 'Hydrogen: Decarbonization's Silver Bullet', Geopolitical Intelligence Service (GIS), 2 July 2020
<https://www.geopoliticalintelligence.com/hydrogen-decarbonization-silver-bullet-energy-313100/>

Rule of Law

Eva U Wagner

Programme Coordinator for Rule of Law, Energy and Development Policy

According to the United Nations, the rule of law is fundamental to international peace and security and political stability, to achieve economic and social progress and development, and to protect people’s rights and fundamental freedoms.

Rule of law and development are strongly interlinked, and strong rule of law-based societies should be aimed at as an outcome of the 2030 Agenda and Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

The rule of law requires the separation of powers, an independent judiciary, and open and transparent law-making by elected representatives. The principles enable people to openly criticise the law and administration and to assemble freely. They mean that the law is applied equally and fairly and accessible for everyone. The principles also prohibit arbitrary treatment and torture, assume that people are innocent until proven guilty, may remain silent and are not required to incriminate themselves. In addition, they prevent civil or criminal prosecution for an offence unknown to the law when committed, and prohibit people to be adversely subjected to a retrospective change of the law.

While the rule of law may be more or less well established in some countries, the principles are non-existent or fall short of the required standard in others. And, even if they are well established in a country, they are nothing that may be taken for granted. Rather, their implementation must be actively monitored, be discussed and be recalibrated, if and when necessary. The importance of the rule of law has become particularly obvious during the ongoing coronavirus pandemic. Governments do not always “get it right”. Their actions may, for example, be disproportionate and, if so, there must be remedies available.

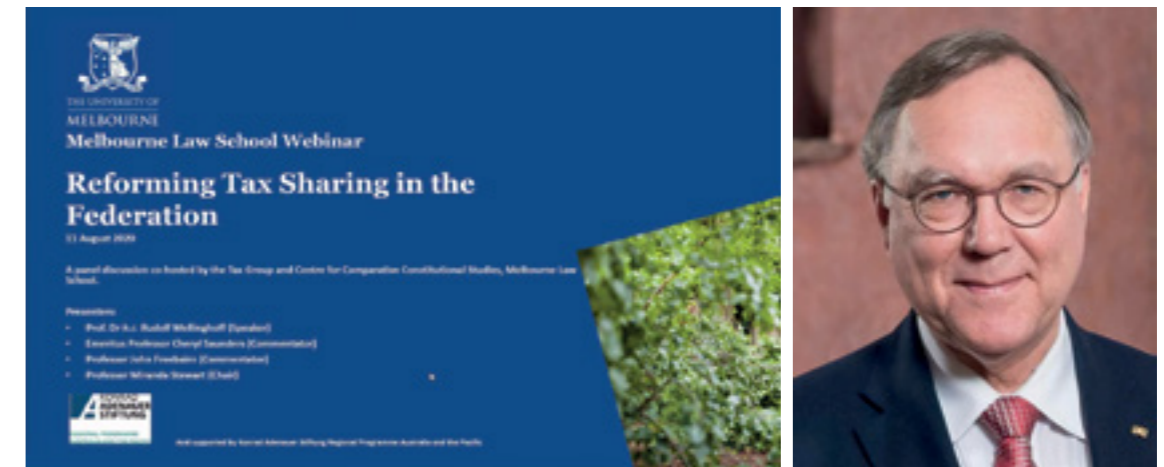
KAS Australia seeks to contribute to the ongoing rule of law debate, including current issues such as the proportionality of coronavirus measures, the interaction of law and politics, and opportunities and limits of rule of law states. More precisely, we aim to connect Germany and the European Union with Australia, New Zealand and the South Pacific so as to increase mutual understanding, and to foster idea and knowledge sharing between policy makers, legal experts, and other stakeholders.

“The importance of the rule of law has become particularly obvious during the ongoing coronavirus pandemic. Governments do not always ‘get it right’.”

August 2020

The launch of KAS Australia’s rule of law dialogue between Germany and Australia

Tax Sharing in a Federation



Prof Dr h c Rudolf Mellinghoff, former President of the German Supreme Finance Court (Photo: Daniel Schvarcz / Federal Fiscal Court)

The first event – a virtual seminar on the reform of tax sharing in a federation - was hosted by the Melbourne Law School (MLS). Chaired by Prof Miranda Steward - Professor of Law, Melbourne Law School, and featuring Prof Rudolf Mellinghoff – former President of the German Supreme Finance Court and former Justice on the German Constitutional Court, the discussion evolved from his presentation on tax equalisation and fiscal controls in Germany’s Federation. Following comments by Laureate Prof Emeritus Cheryl Saunders AO (MLS), the event concluded with insights from Prof John Freebairn AO on the NSW Review of Federal Financial Relations.



A short video of the event is available on the Periscope website periscopekasaaustralia.com.au/reforming-tax-sharing

A full recording may be found on the MLS’ websites alumni.online.unimelb.edu.au/s/1182/match/wide.aspx?sid=1182&gid=1&pgid=19158&content_id=14102

Development Policy

Eva U Wagner

Programme Coordinator for Rule of Law, Energy and Development Policy

The South Pacific Island states have rather diverse political systems and populations. Their developmental stages vary greatly. Nonetheless, they face similar challenges, including human and state security, natural disasters and resource scarcity.

The Boe Declaration on Regional Security issued by the Pacific Islands Forum leaders' meeting in 2018 reaffirms that climate change remains the single greatest threat to the region. There is also rising strategic competition for supremacy by major powers. China's growing influence has triggered the United States and its regional allies Australia, New Zealand and Japan to develop closer ties with the region.

The German Government has also decided to strengthen its engagement with the Indo-Pacific (including Australia, New Zealand and the South Pacific). Under the recently released Guidelines for this region, Germany inter alia seeks to intensify its cooperation with regional institutions. To this end, the German Government commits to send high-level representatives to summit meetings and to promote additional projects as a dialogue partner of the Pacific Islands Forum (PIF).

An exchange of government and non-government actors in the region may help to understand the complex dynamics, however, it cannot substitute the sustainable dialogue with the Pacific Island states themselves. Sustainable development and security is impossible without stable democracies, which, in turn, are impossible without the rule of law. Accordingly, KAS Australia seeks to address a range of development policy issues with a focus on the United Nations' sustainable development goals (Agenda 2030), in particular, peace, justice and strong institutions (SDG 16). More precisely, we seek to promote good governance, institution and capacity building and regional integration as well as the development of inclusive political parties and the rule of law throughout the region.

“KAS Australia seeks to address a range of development policy issues with a focus on the United Nations' sustainable development goals (Agenda 2030).”

We are delighted to invite you to a
Small States and International Dispute Resolution (IDR) Workshop
ONLINE VIA EDX PLATFORM

With the rise of globalisation the need for dispute resolution mechanisms to react quickly, fairly, and expertly to global problems have grown. In today's world a country or territory needs to be aware of the available dispute resolution mechanisms to be able to react appropriately to disputes and to allow its citizens to benefit from the positive aspects of globalisation and at the same time arm them with tools to combat the negative aspects.

The workshop engages participants in developing IDR capacity by:

1. Fostering awareness of the different dispute resolution mechanisms and climate change/environmental issues;
2. Providing IDR awareness for diverse stakeholders including judges, government officials, legal practitioners, business owners, academics, and NGOs;
3. Exploring environmental law related issues in light of possible environmental/climate change claims.

With the guidance of international experts from small states and beyond participants will gain:

- An understanding of the importance of a robust IDR framework;
- An appreciation of the relevance of IDR mechanisms to climate change disputes;
- Knowledge of the differences among the available dispute resolution mechanisms;
- The ability to evaluate which dispute resolution mechanism is the right one for a particular case.

To find out more, contact Prof Petra Butler petra.butler@vuw.ac.nz



International Dispute Resolution 2020


Our changing climate will disproportionately affect the economy, environment and way of life of small states, in particular the many small islands states. We are uncertain about the pace and scale of future change. What we do know, however, is that planning for the future is the best tool we have to combat climate change. One piece of the puzzle to climate change resilience is the need to have access to appropriate, especially international, dispute resolution mechanisms to react quickly, fairly, and expertly.

Leading experts, many of whom are from small states, will introduce you in 12 modules to the cornerstones of international dispute resolution as it relates to climate change.

When is a state small? What are the particular challenges small states face and what are the advantages small states have

in the fight against climate change? What is a disaster? What is the science of climate change? These are all questions explored in the two introductory modules which lay the foundations to explore and to discuss what is the available dispute resolution climate change framework.

The basic concepts of negotiation, mediation, commercial and investment arbitration, and litigation in domestic courts as well as on the international plain will be explored and further illuminated by strategic decision making advice. A specific look at maritime boundary disputes and the use of WTO and human rights dispute resolution mechanisms and an inquiry how to draft effective environmental laws complete the study of dispute resolution as one of the means to help to combat the climate change challenge.



See the world from a different viewpoint

Foreign and Security Policy

Cyber Security

Terrorism / Counter-Terrorism

Energy Policy

Rule of Law

Development Policy

periscopekasaustralia.com.au

PERISCOPE Analysis Papers 2020

Our Analysis Papers are substantive publications in the form of single-author (and co-authored) contributions or edited volumes with multiple authors. Their thematic focus ranges from in-depth analysis of a single topic to examining an issue or broader phenomenon from different angles.

Volume 3 / 2020

The Convergence Puzzle: Australia, Germany and Emerging Cybersecurity Trends

This edition, a collection of contributions from Australia and Germany, is concerned with emerging trends, challenges and patterns in cybersecurity relevant for both countries.

Titled the “Convergence Puzzle”, the edited volume is framed by a conceptualization of cyberspace as a realm of converging and diverging forces and interests: technological, social, political, economic, institutional, cultural, ideational/ideological and strategic. These co-exist, compete and act upon each other - forming a complex ecosystem of dynamic, interlinked threat and opportunity vectors. As such, this overarching theme is premised on the recognition that viewing cybersecurity as a mainly technological matter would be reductionist and fail to capture the complexity of a space created and shaped by humans.



Country Reports

The Regional Programme KAS Australia and the Pacific regularly publishes so-called Country-Reports (mainly written in German language). These are reports and analyses on current political issues in Australia, New Zealand and the South Pacific with international policy relevance, in order to bring major developments in the region closer to Europe. In 2020 three reports were published online - one with a focus on how Australia and New Zealand coped with the Corona pandemic and two reports covering the New Zealand elections.

Volume 1

Australia and New Zealand: like-minded partners on the other side of the world – Different ways of managing the Corona crisis



April 2020
Länderbericht
Regionalprogramm Australien und Pazifik

KONRAD ADENAUER STIFTUNG

Australien und Neuseeland – gleichgesinnte Partner am anderen Ende der Welt - unterschiedliche Wege im Umgang mit der Corona-Krise

Dr. Beatrix Gorawantschy

„We need to prepare for a new normal“ so die Aussage des australischen Premierministers Scott Morrison über den Umgang mit den dramatischen Ausmaßen der Buschbrände zu Beginn des Jahres¹. Im Januar war man in Australien der Auffassung, dass es eigentlich nicht mehr schlimmer kommen könnte.

¹ www.pn.gov.au/media/interview-david-speers-abc-insiders

Volume 2

New Zealand before the Parliamentary elections: Campaigning in pandemic times



Juli 2020
Länderbericht
Regionalprogramm Australien und Pazifik

KONRAD ADENAUER STIFTUNG

Neuseeland vor den Parlamentswahlen

Wahlkampf in Zeiten der Pandemie
Dr. Beatrix Gorawantschy / Eva Wagner

„It is all about saving lives“ – mit dieser klaren Aussage führte die neuseeländische Premierministerin Jacinda Ardern die Bevölkerung am 25. März in einen der weltweit härtesten „lockdowns“ zur Eindämmung der Covid-19-Pandemie, mit dem Ergebnis, dass man aktuell nahezu von einer Eliminierung des Virus auf der anderen Seite der Welt sprechen kann. Die Premierministerin und die von ihr geführte Labour Party erfreuen sich großer Popularität, während die Umfragewerte der oppositionellen National Party alarmierende Tiefen annehmen, woraufhin diese ihren Spitzenkandidaten im Mai austauschte. Niemand konnte ahnen, dass der neue Vorsitzende der National Party bereits nach 52 Tagen im Amt zurücktreten würde und damit die Krise der Partei offenbarte. Judith Collins, Politikveteranin der National Party, wurde am 14. Juli zur neuen Vorsitzenden gewählt; sie wird alles daransetzen, ihrem Spitznamen „Crusher Collins“ gerecht zu werden und Krisenmanagerin Jacinda Ardern bei den Parlamentswahlen am 19. September zu entthronen.

Volume 3

Historic election victory for the New Zealand Labour Party at the General Elections - Jacinda Ardern makes history



Oktober 2020
Länderbericht
Regionalprogramm Australien und Pazifik

KONRAD ADENAUER STIFTUNG

Historischer Wahlsieg für die Labour Party bei den Parlamentswahlen in Neuseeland - Jacinda Ardern schreibt Geschichte

Dr. Beatrix Gorawantschy / Eva U Wagner

„and the winner is ... Jacinda Ardern“ - jede Oscar-Preisverleihung wäre überraschender gewesen als der Ausgang der neuseeländischen Parlamentswahlen am 17. Oktober. Die Umfragen, welche die Labour Party über Monate vorne gesehen hatten, sollten sich verwirklichen. Das Ergebnis hat die Vorhersagen sogar noch übertroffen: die amtierende Labour-Regierung unter Führung von Jacinda Ardern ist nach dem vorläufigen Wahlergebnis mit 49,1 Prozent nicht nur stärkste Kraft, sondern gewinnt mit 64 Sitzen auch die absolute Mehrheit im Parlament. Es ging am Wahltag weniger um die Frage, ob die Partei gewinnen würde, sondern vielmehr darum, ob das Wahlergebnis und die Mehrheitsverhältnisse im Parlament eine Koalition zur Regierungsbildung erfordern würde oder nicht. Die oppositionelle National Party unter Judith Collins musste ihre desaströse Niederlage eingestehen.

Digital Snapshot

(Continued)

#10/20

New Zealand - Current Affairs and Australia – Aboriginal Non-Citizens May be Non-Alien

May 2020 / by Eva U Wagner

This edition covers three topics. The contribution on current affairs in New Zealand includes an update on the latest polls in the run up to the general elections, explains the Epidemic Response Committee that was set up to ensure scrutiny during the country's hard lockdown and refers the committee's plans for a Trans-Tasman travel bubble. The edition also covers a landmark decision by the High Court of Australia on the status of Indigenous people in Australia, and introduces the Pacific's first counsel to the International Criminal Court.



Photo Credit: Paul Schellekens (via unsplash)

#13/20

Economic Engagement and Diplomacy in the Era of the Wolf Warrior: Australia-China Relations

May 2020 / by Katja Theodorakis

The relationship with China has again been at the forefront of political debates in Australia, over the past fortnight - interestingly, with some possible pointers for other Western countries as to what measures Beijing is willing to take against Western governments' recalcitrance towards Chinese 'authority'. This is a salient and timely issue for the EU and its member states as European leaders are increasingly forced to carve out a more decisive stance against an increasingly assertive China.



Photo Credit: Brian Miller (via unsplash)

2020 Digital Snapshot Index

<https://wakelet.com/@KASAAustralia>

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- #2/20 Australia's Summer Of Crisis: Morrison Government Under Fire from Various Sides

- #3/20 Coming to terms with the 'Black Summer': Australian Politics and the Bushfires

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- #18/20 New Zealand - Run Up to the Election (Volume 1)

Meet the team



Dr Beatrice Gorawantschy
Director Regional Programme Australia and the Pacific

“Having been posted to various offices of the international network of KAS – in Ankara, Manila, Bangkok, Paris, New Delhi and Singapore – it is an exciting challenge and great privilege to head a new Regional Programme on a new continent!”



Eva U Wagner
Programme Coordinator
Rule of Law, Energy and Development Policy

“Having a background in law, KAS Australia provides me with the opportunity to see the world from a broader viewpoint. I am excited to support the Foundation’s work towards freedom, liberty, peace and justice with a focus on the rule of law, energy and development policy.”



The KAS Australia and The Pacific Team
(from left to right): Katja Theodorakis, Katharina Lilly, Dr Beatrice Gorawantschy, Juliane Strache, Anne Angelo, Eva U Wagner
(Photo Credit: Rohan Thomson, Pew Pew Studio)



Katja Theodorakis
Senior Programme Coordinator
Research and Analysis Foreign and Security Policy

“My background is in research, in the field of terrorism, Middle East politics, ideology and national security issues. It’s exciting for me to apply this knowledge to my work at KAS because I’m passionate about furthering knowledge and overcoming boundaries – geographical and otherwise.”



Anne Angelo
Financial and Administration Manager

“It is great to be a part of KAS’ amazing contributions to Australia and the Pacific region. Having worked in accounting firms and corporate groups in accounting and financial analysis, I provide financial guidance and support to the KAS activities.”



Katharina Lilly
Administration Officer

“Having joined KAS in September 2020, I support the team on the administrative side. I have a background in hospitality and travel, having worked in different countries in Europe, Africa and now Australia. I enjoy the international factor in my work here at KAS and being part of the amazing KAS network. I am delighted to be able to contribute to the variety of KAS projects.”



Juliane Strache
Events and Office Manager

“With extensive experience in hospitality and events management my focus is on delivering successful events through the planning and execution of various programmes. Having been with KAS Australia for over a year, I enjoy being part of such a versatile and proactive team and thoroughly enjoy the various projects I can be part of.”

Foreign and Liaison Offices of the Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung

CP = Country Programme
RP = Regional Sector Programme
LO = Liaison Office



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11/3 Sydney Avenue
Barton ACT 2600
Australia

Tel: +61 2 6154 9322

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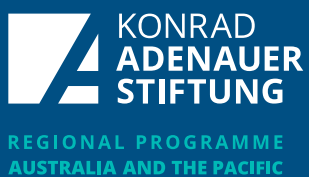
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Konrad Adenauer Stiftung (Australia) Limited
Regional Programme Australia and the Pacific
11/3 Sydney Avenue
Barton ACT 2600
Australia

 +61 2 6154 9322

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