

European Union - Australia

Track 1.5 Strategic Dialogue

Russia's invasion of Ukraine and implications for the Indo-Pacific

Convened jointly by the European Union for Security Studies
and the ANU National Security College

Monday, 20 June 2022, Martin's Hotel, Brussels

09.00 – 12.30 CET

09.00-09.10 CET **Opening remarks**

19.00-19.10 AEDT

The fifth session of the Strategic Dialogue between Australia and the EU brings together senior officials and experts to discuss respective viewpoints and actions on the Russian aggression against Ukraine and analyse its implications for the security in Europe and the Indo-Pacific region. The Dialogue aims to further mutual understanding of policy perspectives from Australia and Europe, to identify and maximise opportunities for convergence, address potential divergences and to act as a research platform for deepening policy collaboration in a tense and rapidly changing strategic environment.

- **Gustav Lindstrom**, Director, EUISS
 - **Prof Rory Medcalf**, Head of the ANU National Security College
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09.10-10.30 CET **Session 1 – Russia's invasion of Ukraine: state of play and consequences for Europe, Australia and their allies**

On 24 February 2022, 8 years after the annexation of Crimea and subsequent occupation of parts of Donbas, Russia launched a large-scale invasion of Ukraine. Both the EU and Australia condemned Moscow in severe terms, enforced a series of individual and sectoral economic sanctions against Russia and provided Ukraine with defensive equipment and humanitarian aid. The war is still on-going today, with devastating human and material consequences for Ukraine, Europe and the world.

This session will provide opportunities to exchange views on the unfolding conflict, its consequences for Europe, as well as to share an assessment of the positions and actions taken by the EU and Australia so far, identifying the potential for more converging actions at bilateral and multilateral levels, between the EU and Australia, as well as with their allies and partners.

Chair: Stanislav Secieru, Senior Analyst, EUISS

Framing remarks:

- **Sinikukka Saari**, Leading Researcher, The Finnish Institute of International Affairs
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- **Duncan Lewis**, former Australian Ambassador to NATO and the EU
 - **Audrone Perkauskiene**, Head of Division Russia, EEAS
 - **Jane Hardy**, Assistant Secretary, Europe Political Branch, DFAT

Group discussion questions:

- What is the latest state of play of Russia's invasion of Ukraine and what are the possible military scenarios in the coming months? What are the possibilities for allied support to Ukraine according to different scenarios?
- What have been the impact on European security dynamics so far, being at member states, eastern neighbourhood, EU or NATO level?
- What are the wider consequences of the conflict (from food security to energy inflation)? How best to address them?
- How should Australia and the EU work together on these issues? How to maintain and strengthen coalition for global support to rule based multilateral order?

10:30-10:50 CET

Coffee break

10:50-11:50 CET

Session 2 – Russia's invasion of Ukraine: security implications for the Indo-Pacific

Russia's invasion of Ukraine is generating various questions and dilemma for Indo-Pacific partners. The hierarchy of security issues on the agenda in Brussels, EU capitals and beyond, has logically evolved with the Ukraine issue now being the priority topic discussed at multilateral and bilateral levels, including with Indo-Pacific/Asian partners. At the same time, security issues in Europe and the Indo-Pacific region are perceived as increasingly connected. In particular, the impact of the war in Ukraine on the situation in the Taiwan strait are a matter of concern. The invasion of Ukraine is also underlining divergences within the Indo-Pacific grouping, with countries such as India refusing to sanction Russia.

Russia's invasion of Ukraine also has major implications for security arrangements and the rules-based order around the world. Concerns over national sovereignty, territorial integrity, the role of great powers in providing security guarantees are being keenly felt in the Indo-Pacific. In this context, questions arise on the relevancy of adopting an integrated approach to the two - European and Indo-Pacific - strategic security theatres.

Chair: Nicola Rosenblum, Deputy Head of College, ANU National Security College

Framing remarks:

- **Richard Maude**, Asia Society
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- **Céline Pajon**, Head of Japan Research, Coordinator of the Program on Pacific Islands, Center for Asian Studies, Ifri & **Alice Ekman**, Senior Analyst, EUISS
 - **Justin Whyatt**, Acting First Assistant Secretary, US and Indo-Pacific Strategy Division
 - **Monika Bylaite**, Deputy Head of Division Regional Affairs, ASEM and Indo-Pacific

Group discussion questions:

- What is the impact of Russia's invasion of Ukraine on the Russia-China partnership and the "no-limits" friendship they declared in February 2022? How may China react if Russia becomes increasingly isolated? Will China step up purchases of Russian energy in any case?
- In what ways may the war in Ukraine impact Taiwan strait dynamics? Will it modify the calendar and modus operandum of China's strategy of 'reunification' of Taiwan? What messages will the evolution and outcome of the Ukraine war send to Taiwan and China?
- How are security alliances and partnerships in the Indo-Pacific developing in the wake of Russia's invasion of Ukraine? Do the diverging positions on the war in Ukraine represented a challenge for cohesion in the Indo-Pacific?
- What can the EU and Australia do to support the rules-based order in the Indo-Pacific? Should there be a twin /integrated approach to the two strategic security theatres?

11.50-12.00 CET

Closing remarks

Key takeaways (*points of convergences/divergences, joint EU-Australia actions forward*)

- **Caroline Millar**, Australia's Ambassador to the EU and NATO
- **Herve Delphin**, Deputy Director and Head of Policy Planning Division, EEAS

12.00 – 12:30 CET

Informal lunch

PARTICIPANTS LIST

AUSTRALIA

- Professor Rory Medcalf, Head of the ANU National Security College (*delegation lead*)
- Hayley Channer, Senior Policy Fellow, Perth USAsia Centre
- Professor Fiona Cunningham, Associate Professor of Political Science, University of Pennsylvania
- Professor Stephan Frühling, Acting Head of the Strategic and Defence Studies Centre, ANU
- Adjunct Professor Jane Halton, University of Sydney and University of Canberra
- Jane Hardy, Assistant Secretary, Europe Political Branch, DFAT (TBC)
- Major General (RTD) Duncan Lewis AO, DSC, CSC, Professor in the Practice of National Security, ANU National Security College
- Richard Maude, Senior Fellow, Asia Society Policy Institute
- Caroline Millar, Ambassador to the EU and NATO
- Nicola Rosenblum, Deputy Head, ANU National Security College
- Justin Whyatt, Acting First Assistant Secretary, US and Indo-Pacific Strategy Division, DFAT

Observers

- Katie Cavell, Assistant Director, Europe Political Branch, DFAT
- David Dutton, Deputy Head of Australia's Permanent Mission to the EU and Brussels
- Nicole Hirst, Assistant Director, Indo-Pacific Strategy and Geoeconomics Section, DFAT
- Victoria Kuczer, Second Secretary, Australian Mission to the EU
- Elizabeth Wilde, Assistant Secretary, Key Sectors Taskforce, DFAT
- Dr Katarzyna K Williams, Deputy Director, ANU Centre for European Studies, DFAT

EUROPEAN UNION

- Joanneke Balffoort, Director for Security and Defence Policy, EEAS
- Steven Blockmans, Director, CEPS; Professor of EU External Relations Law, University of Amsterdam
- Ricardo Borges de Castro, Associate Director and Head of the Europe in the World Programme at the European Policy Centre.
- Reinhold Brender, Head of Division Japan, Korea, Australia, New Zealand and Pacific, EEAS
- Filip Bryjka, Analyst, International Security Program, Polish Institute of International Affairs (PISM)
- Monika Bylaite, Deputy Head of Division Regional Affairs, ASEM and Indo-Pacific, EEAS
- Pierre-Christophe Chatzisavas, Assistant to Deputy Secretary General CSDP and Crisis Response, EEAS
- Herve Delphin, Deputy Director, Head of Division Policy Planning and Strategic Foresight, EEAS
- Luc Devigne, Deputy Managing Director for Eastern Europe and Central Asia, EEAS
- Alice Ekman, Senior Analyst, EUISS
- Borja Lasheras, Non-resident Senior Fellow with the Transatlantic Defense and Security program at the Center for European Policy Analysis (CEPA)

- Gustav Lindstrom, Director, EUISS
- Céline Pajon, Head of Japan Research, Coordinator of the Program on Pacific Islands, Center for Asian Studies, IFRI
- Paola Pampaloni, Deputy Managing Director for Asia-Pacific, EEAS
- Stavros Petropoulos, Senior Expert - Indo-Pacific, EEAS
- Sinikukka Saari, Leading Researcher, The Finnish Institute of International Affairs (FIIA)
- Stanislav Secrieru, Senior Analyst, EUISS
- Rensje Teerink, Head of Division Regional Affairs, ASEM and Indo-Pacific, EEAS
- Maïke Tribbels, Political Assistant, EEAS
- Gabriele Visentin, EU Special Envoy for Indo-Pacific, EEAS
- Alison Weston, Head of Division Partnerships and Task Force NATO, EEAS

Observers

- Alexandra Bumcke, Trainee, Policy Planning and Strategic Foresight
- Michal Makocki, Policy Advisor, Policy Planning and Strategic Foresight
- Dalia Parete, Trainee, EUISS
- Guadalupe Perez Garcia, Desk Officer Australia
- Anita Sek-Pajic, Policy Advisor, Policy Planning and Strategic Foresight
- Michaela Zelenanska, Trainee, EUISS