



Australian
National
University



THE UNIVERSITY
of ADELAIDE

Workshop on Security Co-operation in the Pacific Islands

23 NOVEMBER – 24 NOVEMBER 2022

Lecture Theatre 1, Hedley Bull Building, ANU

Department of
Pacific Affairs

College of Asia & the
Pacific

Event Program

DAY 1 – Wednesday 23 November 2022

9:00–10:00am

Welcome by project team

Reflections and key findings from the ‘Security Cooperation in the Pacific Islands’ project

Professor Joanne Wallis, University of Adelaide
James Batley, Australian National University
Henrietta McNeill, Australian National University
Dr Anna Powles, Massey University
Professor Hidekazu Sakai, Kansai Gaidai University
Professor Alan Tidwell, Georgetown University

10:00–10:30am

Morning Tea

10:30am–12:00pm

Recent development 1: what role did regional organisations play in managing COVID-19? (Moderator: Dr Anna Powles)

Speakers

Distinguished Professor Steven Ratuva, University of Canterbury
Georgia Tiaono Whitta, University of Auckland
Terio Koronawa, Pacific Islands Forum
Leitulala Kuiniselani Tago, Pacific Community & Australian National University

- How did the Pacific Islands Forum respond to the COVID-19 pandemic?
 - What lessons came out of the COVID-19 response that can be applied to future crises such as climate change?
 - What does the Forum’s role in the COVID-19 response tell us about regional cooperative mechanisms?
-

12:00–1:00pm

Lunch

1:00–2:30pm

Recent development 2: what have recent disasters told us about HADR cooperation in the Pacific? (Moderator: James Batley)

Speakers

Sione Taumoefolau, Tonga Red Cross
Air Commodore David Hombsch, Headquarters Joint Operations Command, Australian Defence Force
Miranda Booth, Charles Darwin University

- How did the Tongan government and NGOs respond to the January 2022 tsunami in Tonga?
- There was shift to localisation during the response to Cyclone Pam in 2020 due to COVID-19-related border closures, which was continued in Tonga. How does localisation work in practice?
- What role did international partners play in the response? What were the strengths and challenges of international partnership?
- What role did the International Coordination Cell (that brought together Australia, New Zealand, Tonga, Fiji, Japan, France, the United Kingdom, and the United States) play in coordinating the international response?
- How will Australia, New Zealand, Japan, France, the United Kingdom, and the United States work with China on future HADR?

Event Program

DAY 1 – Wednesday 23 November 2022 (cont.)

2:30–3:00pm **Afternoon Tea**

3:00–5:00pm **Topic 1: What can partners do to assist regional security cooperation in the maritime domain? (Moderator: Professor Joanne Wallis)**

Speakers

James Movick, Pacific Fusion Centre

Vice Admiral Tomohiko Madono, Japan Maritime Self-Defence Force

Dr Liz Brierley, Pacific Maritime Security Programme, Australian Department of Defense

Commander Michael Collinson, Royal New Zealand Navy

James Ink, Joint Interagency Taskforce West, INDOPACOM

Dr Hélène Goiran-Ponsard, Adviser to the Commander of the French Armed Forces in New Caledonia

- What roles do the Pacific Fusion Centre and Forum Fisheries Agency play in coordinating partners' maritime security assistance?
 - How well do partners coordinate in their provision of security assistance in the Pacific?
 - What role does the Pacific Quadrilateral Defence Coordination play?
 - What role does the FRANZ Arrangement play?
 - What role will the Partners in the Blue Pacific initiative play in coordinating partner assistance?
 - What do we need to be thinking about in terms of technological innovation for security cooperation in maritime domain awareness?
 - Should the Pacific Islands Forum play a more active role in coordinating partner security assistance?
-

6:30–9:00pm **Workshop dinner (for presenters and invited participants)**

DAY 2 – Thursday 24 November 2022

9:00–10:30am **Recent development 3: China's proposed economic and security pact and Pacific responses (Moderator: Professor Hidekazu Sakai)**

Speakers

Dr Henry Ivarature, Australia Pacific Security College

Pete Connolly, Australian National University

Dr Anna Powles, Massey University

Dr Joseph Foukona, University of Hawai'i – Mānoa

- *What are the implications of the Solomon Islands-China security agreement for security cooperation in Solomon Islands?*
 - *What issues arise from China's efforts to secure a regional economic and security pact?*
 - *What do the responses of Pacific Island countries to China's overtures tell us about the future of regional security cooperation?*
 - *What are the implications of geopolitical discussions about China at the local level?*
-

10:30–11:00am **Morning Tea**

Event Program

Thursday 24 November 2022 (cont.)

11:00am–12:30pm

Topic 2: Paragraph 30 of the Pacific Islands Forum 51st communique – what would a ‘fit for purpose’ regional architecture look like? (Moderator: Henrietta McNeill)

Speakers

Maima Koro, University of Adelaide

Associate Professor Sandra Tarte, University of the South Pacific

Matea Nauto, Australian National University

- What is the future of the Pacific Island Forum in the long term?
 - What questions does the 2050 Strategy for the Blue Pacific Continent answer, and leave unanswered?
 - How will the 2050 Strategy be operationalised? What are the challenges?
 - Should Pacific Island countries seek to collectively respond to geopolitical changes?
 - What does the ‘family first’ approach to peace and security described in the Pacific Islands Forum leaders’ 51st communique look like in practice?
-

12:30–1:30pm

Lunch

1:30–2:30pm

Keynote speech and Q&A

Speaker

Ewen McDonald, Head of the Office of the Pacific, Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade

2:30–3:00pm

Afternoon Tea

3:00–4:30pm

Topic 3: How can security cooperation be meaningfully facilitated between local, national, and regional levels? (Moderator: Professor Alan Tidwell)

Speakers

Sharon Bhagwan Rolls, Shifting the Power Coalition & Global Partnership for the Prevention of Armed Conflict

Dr Kenneth Kuper, University of Guam

Dr Nayahamui Rooney, Australian National University

- The 2050 Strategy commits the Pacific Islands Forum to focus on ‘peace-centered development’ and to include and engage with a range of partners from the local to the regional levels. How can this be facilitated in practice?
 - How relevant are the national security strategies that Pacific Island countries have been making in line with the Boe Declaration?
 - The 2022 Forum leaders’ communique called for the development of a ‘Security Policy Roadmap’. What should this roadmap include?
-

4:30–5:00pm

Reflections on the potential and pitfalls of Pacific security cooperation (Moderator: Professor Joanne Wallis)

Speaker

William Waqavakatoga, University of Adelaide

Soli Middleby, University of Adelaide

Teddy Winn, James Cook University

This activity is supported by the Australian Government through a grant by the Australian Department of Defence. The views expressed herein are those of the authors and are not necessarily those of the Australian Government or the Australian Department of Defence.

This organisation of this workshop is a collaboration between the Stretton Institute, University of Adelaide and the Department of Pacific Affairs, Australian National University