



Introduction

This volume of Shedden Papers is the second in an annual series.

The compendium of papers reflects the thinking of course members during their year of study at the Centre for Defence and Strategic Studies at the Australian Defence College. As such, the content of each paper is presented unedited, with only a slight intervention from the editor for the sake of consistency of format. I draw your attention to the information inside the front cover that outlines the background to the Shedden Papers series.

Readers will find a wide range of subject matter in this volume, from discussions on the discourse within the current academic debate surrounding international relations theory, to the practical application by policy makers of models of how states pursue their national interest. Two papers examine decision-making at the highest strategic level in highly contrasting circumstances. And there is a range of papers that examine contemporary security issues within the Asia–Pacific region: neo-colonialism; trends in cooperation on counter-terrorism; and US regional engagement.

I hope you enjoy reading this publication.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "M Rowling".

Myra Rowling
Principal
Centre for Defence and Strategic Studies

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