
By: Dr Andrew Phillips, Senior Lecturer in International Relations and Strategy
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Abstract: China and India’s simultaneous rise as Great Powers and the reality of American hegemonic decline have sparked furious debate about how Australia might best accommodate itself to the power realities of the nascent Indo-Pacific age. However, where the vast bulk of this debate has focused on the dangers of Australia being ‘forced to choose’ between the US and China in the context of East Asian Great Power politics, this paper will instead concentrate on the broader strategic domain of the Indo-Pacific, and focus specifically on the strategic challenges Australia will imminently confront in mediating its trilateral relationship between the US (its traditional security patron), China (its biggest trading partner), and India, a country with whom Australia has latterly sought to cultivate stronger trade and defence ties, but which nevertheless remains both ambivalent to the United States and deeply hostile to China.

Speaker Bio: Andrew Phillips (PhD, Cornell) is a Senior Lecturer in International Relations and Strategy in the School of Political Science and International Studies at the University of Queensland. His research focuses on the global state system’s evolution from 1500 to the present, and on the challenges that religiously motivated terrorism, the spread of Weapons of Mass Destruction, and state failure pose to the contemporary international order. He is the author of War, Religion and Empire: The Transformation of International Orders (Cambridge, 2011), and has articles published or forthcoming in European Journal of International Relations, International Politics, Review of International Studies, Australian Journal of International Affairs, National Identities, and Security Challenges. Prior to his post-graduate studies, he also worked in the Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet.

Thursday 5th April, 2012
N54 Room 2.01
Nathan campus
12.30 -1.50pm

To RSVP, please contact Sylvia Gillard on (07) 3735 5322 or s.gillard@griffith.edu.au no later than 5.00pm Monday 2nd April 2012. This is a catered event.