



Australian Government

CALL FOR PUBLIC SUBMISSIONS FOREIGN POLICY WHITE PAPER

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WE NEED A CONTEMPORARY FOREIGN POLICY STRATEGY; WE ARE A SIGNIFICANT REGIONAL VOICE; WE HAVE ACHIEVED A CONSIDERABLE AMOUNT OVER THREE YEARS. THIS WILL LOOK AT THE CHALLENGES, THE THREATS AND THE OPPORTUNITIES.

JULIE BISHOP MINISTER FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS

THE AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT IS CALLING FOR PUBLIC SUBMISSIONS AS IT PREPARES A NEW FOREIGN POLICY WHITE PAPER, THE FIRST SINCE 2003. WE AIM TO RELEASE THE WHITE PAPER IN 2017.

Australia is entering its 26th consecutive year of economic growth. Fundamental to our success has been our economic engagement with the world, especially East Asia. Australia, a nation that relies on open trade, investment and migration, can look to the future with confidence.

Our prosperity, security and influence reflect, in no small part, a period of remarkable strategic and political stability in the Indo-Pacific. The world is changing, however, in profound ways which will influence, for good or ill, the prosperity and security of all Australians.

Australia must ensure our international engagement continues to rest on a sound foundation, one that is clear-eyed about our interests, grounded in our values and capable of managing risks as well as seizing opportunities.

To ensure we have an effective foreign policy that represents and advances the interests of all Australians, the Government wants to engage the Australian community in all its diversity on the White Paper.

We are seeking your contributions and your ideas by 28 February 2017.

In particular, we ask that submissions consider the following key issues or questions. This is not an exclusive list but is designed to stimulate debate and discussion.

This process of public consultation is one part of a wider program of extensive stakeholder consultation.

AUSTRALIA'S FUTURE PROSPERITY IS ANCHORED IN OUR ENGAGEMENT WITH OUR REGION AND THE WORLD MORE BROADLY. THE WHITE PAPER PRESENTS AN OPPORTUNITY TO PUT IN PLACE THE RIGHT TRADE AND INVESTMENT POLICY SETTINGS THAT WILL HELP DRIVE AUSTRALIA'S FUTURE GROWTH.

STEVEN CIOBO MINISTER FOR TRADE, TOURISM AND INVESTMENT



01

AUSTRALIA'S FOREIGN POLICY NEEDS TO BE GROUNDED IN A CLEAR-EYED ASSESSMENT OF OUR NATIONAL INTERESTS.

- How should we define Australia's national interests in a changing world? How should our values underpin Australia's foreign policy? What should we do differently? How can we do better?

02

AUSTRALIA HAS DIVERSE INTERESTS THAT SPAN THE GLOBE.

- Which countries will matter most to Australia over the next 10 years? Why and in what ways? How should we deepen and diversify key relationships?
- Which global trends, such as developments in technology, environmental degradation and the role of non-state actors, are likely to affect Australia's security and prosperity? How should Australia respond?

03

AUSTRALIA IS AN INFLUENTIAL PLAYER IN REGIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL ORGANISATIONS.

- Which regional and global organisations matter most to us? How should we support and shape them? How can we maximise our influence?

04

AUSTRALIA NEEDS TO BE AMBITIOUS IN GRASPING ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITIES.

- What steps should be taken to maximise our trade and investment and expand commercial opportunities for Australian business? How can we ensure Australia is positioned to take advantage of opportunities in the global economy? What are the key risks to Australia's future prosperity and how should we respond?

05

AUSTRALIA CONFRONTS A RANGE OF STRATEGIC, SECURITY AND TRANSNATIONAL CHALLENGES.

- How can Australia best deal with instability beyond our borders? How can our foreign policy, including our overseas development assistance program, support a more prosperous, peaceful and stable region? How should our international engagement work to protect Australia against transnational security threats, such as terrorism?

06

AUSTRALIA USES A RANGE OF ASSETS AND CAPABILITIES TO PURSUE OUR INTERNATIONAL INTERESTS.

- What assets will we need to advance our foreign policy interests in future years? How can we best use our people and our assets to advance Australia's economic, security and other interests and respond to external events?
- How can Government work more effectively with non-government sectors, including business, universities and NGOs, to advance Australia's interests?

Submissions close
28 February 2017

Emailed to
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