

University of Otago National Security School

Rethinking New Zealand's National Security

8th February, 2023, St Margaret's College, University of Otago

Introduction

Governments the world over are taking a hard look at their national security strategies, reappraising how they plan for – and are less reactive to – the ever-changing geopolitical environment, the multiplicity and interconnectedness of emerging threats, and the risks that social fragmentation and a declining economic situation might create.

The fourth Otago National Security School combines national security practitioners with leading New Zealand and international academics to address such issues as; how states are rethinking their strategies from the bottom up to account for the role of cybersecurity, disinformation, and the changing landscape of counterterrorism; how narratives about risk and threat thread into planning and execution of natsec strategies; how in particular smaller and medium sized states are synchronising their national security policy making; the part economics plays in national security; and corresponding issues like the oversight of intelligence agencies and how indigenous rights can be respected in decisions about national security.

Academic Committee of the University of Otago National Security School

Dr Balazs Kiglics

Co-ordinator, Languages and Cultures Programme, University of Otago

Associate Professor Marcelle Dawson

Sociology, Gender Studies and Criminology Programme, University of Otago

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Politics Programme, University of Otago

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National Centre for Peace and Conflict Studies, University of Otago

Professor Paola Voci

Languages and Cultures Programme, University of Otago

Associate Professor Dennis Wesselbaum
Department of Economics, University of Otago

Directors

Professor Robert Patman
Politics Programme
University of Otago

Dr Peter Grace
Politics Programme
University of Otago

Programme

- 10.55am** **Opening of the School**
- Mihi whakataua: Professor Tony Ballantyne**
Deputy-Vice-Chancellor External Engagement, University of Otago
- Professor David Murdoch**
Vice-Chancellor, University of Otago
- Professor Robert Patman**
Director, National Security School
- 11.10am** **Session 1 Keynote**
Mr Tony Lynch
Deputy Chief Executive, National Security Group, Department of the
Prime Minister and Cabinet, Wellington
- Refreshing Aotearoa New Zealand's Approach to National Security*
- Chair: Professor Robert Patman**
Politics Programme, University of Otago
- 11.45am** **Session 2**
Associate Professor William Hoverd
Director, Centre for Defence and Strategic Studies
Massey University
- New Zealand National Security Discourse in 2023: A Fundamental
Change?*
- Chair: Ms Neki Haig**
Master of International Studies (MIntSt) student, University of Otago
- 12.15pm** **Lunch break**
- 1.00pm** **Session 3**

Associate Professor Joe Burton (on Zoom)
University of Nottingham

Desecuritising Cyber Security: Towards a Societal Approach

Chair: Dr Peter Grace
Politics Programme, University of Otago

1.30pm

Session 4

Ms Victoria Walker (on Zoom)
Assistant Director, DCAF (Geneva Centre for Security Sector
Governance), Head of the International Security Sector Advisory Team

*Rethinking National Security Strategies for Small-Middle Powers: A
View from Geneva*

Chair: Associate Professor SungYong Lee
National Centre for Peace and Conflict Studies, University of Otago

2.00pm

Session 5

Mr Andy George
Counter Terrorism Strategic Coordinator, Department of the
Prime Minister and Cabinet, Wellington

*Counter-Terrorism: The New Landscape after the Christchurch Mosque
Attacks of 2019*

Chair: Ms Kina Kunz
PhD Candidate, Politics Programme, University of Otago

2.30pm

Session 6

Ms Carolyn Tremain (on Zoom)
Chief Executive, Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment

The Economic Drivers of National Security Strategies

Chair: Associate Professor Dennis Wesselbaum
Department of Economics, University of Otago

3.00pm

Afternoon tea break

3.20pm

Roundtable: *The Changing Context of New Zealand's National Security*

Ms Melanie Mark-Shadbolt
Deputy Secretary - Tūmatakōkiri (Māori Rights & Interest), Ministry of
Environment

Decolonising National Security Policy and Fulfilling the Promises of Te Tiriti o Waitangi

Dr Sanjana Hattotuwa

Research Fellow, The Disinformation Project and Special Adviser,
ICT4Peace Foundation, Switzerland

Between Scylla & Charybdis: Disinformation's Destruction of Democracy in New Zealand.

Sir Terence Arnold KNZM KC

Former Solicitor General of New Zealand, Justice of the Supreme Court (ret.), Reviewer, Intelligence and Security Act (2017)

Oversight of New Zealand's Intelligence Agencies: Back to the Future

Chair: Professor Philip Nel

Politics Programme, University of Otago

4.00pm

Closing remarks

Dr Peter Grace

Director, National Security School
Politics Programme, University of Otago

4.05pm

End of the School

Contact person

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List of sponsors

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