

WELCOME TO THE NATIONAL SECURITY JOURNAL

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Welcome to the first issue of *National Security Journal* (NSJ) published by the Centre for Defence and Security Studies (CDSS) of Massey University with full support and encouragement from the Centre's Strategic Advisory Board (SAB). The decision to produce a new journal was not a straight forward one; internationally there are already many academic journals that address security issues, some regularly, others randomly. However, the demand for a timely, comprehensive and dedicated security analysis of the constantly evolving global and national security environment relevant for both the academic and practitioner communities continues to exceed the existing menu of journal publications. There are several reasons why this is so. Some have to do with outdated views on security and security studies. Security matters continue to be largely perceived through a rather narrow prism focusing primarily on military, law enforcement and intelligence affairs. Security studies is often treated as a mere subset of political studies or international relations. The other common problem is the limitation of existing academic journals with many of them adhering to discipline specific content. Here in New Zealand most security related content is delivered by professional magazines without a single peer reviewed journal dealing with security, national or international. These problems at the same time offer an opportunity to emphasise and advance the true interdisciplinary nature of security studies which perhaps is the most effective way to understand and deal with the increasingly complex security environment.

Publishing NSJ in so called 'safe and stable' New Zealand might surprise the orthodox international and local security thinkers although this is less likely after the terrorist attacks of 15 March 2019 in Christchurch. However we believe that New Zealand is one of the most appropriate locations for such a journal. New Zealand is a place where residual security complacency and prejudices coexist with bold and innovative views and initiatives on security. It is in New Zealand that the country's Prime Minister has declared climate change as the most important national security problem even after the unprecedented terrorist attacks. Following the Christchurch attacks, Prime Minister Jacinda

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Ardern embarked on and led a global campaign to make social media more responsible for the violent content they host. The New Zealand government has impressed the international community with its prompt response to flaws in its gun regulations. In its foreign policy, New Zealand has been actively addressing developmental issues in the Pacific Islands region as an important national security issue. And yet, New Zealand government agencies working in the Pacific do not always find a common language with NGOs. Those NGOs carry out much appreciated but challenging work in the areas of humanitarian support and development. While resource constrained, they are still wary of getting too close to the better funded, often uniformed, government agencies.

The field of national security has grown significantly over the past several years, but the concept of national security continues to be controversial. The Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet's (DPMC) Fact Sheet No. 3 of September 2017, in reference to New Zealand's new *Intelligence and Security Act*, notes that national security 'is a difficult concept to define as it needs to be able to respond to different threats which may evolve or emerge over time.' The other problem for New Zealand, as well as many other countries, is the sense of territoriality and ownership of national security by some core security agencies. New Zealand's *National Security System Handbook* of 2016 suggests that 'local government, quasi-government agencies and the private sector also have increasingly important roles within national security.' However, this aspiration has not become a reality yet as our conversations with the private sector indicate. The lack of a national security strategy in New Zealand that could mobilise and ensure a broad and inclusive participation in national security matters is symptomatic in that context.

The NSJ project is an attempt to fill those gaps by offering a platform for scholarly and professional contributions that will broaden and deepen our understanding of security and national security, advance the area of security studies as well as build bridges between academic, government, business and non-governmental communities all of which should be part of the national security discourse.

National security is not just about internal security. It cannot be preserved and sustained without international collaboration and thorough assessment of the impact of global threats and challenges. NSJ will therefore be seeking contributions on major and emerging global security challenges affecting national security of New Zealand and of other countries as well as case studies of national security frameworks, policies, debates and issues across the Asia-Pacific region and beyond.

The field of national security can be divisive, therefore NSJ endeavors to provide a source of information where a broad diversity of views are welcome and given balanced weight. NSJ favours a strong emphasis on inter-disciplinary issues as we are conscious that many complex problems in the security domain require multi-disciplinary solutions. By focusing on the production and publication of top-tier scholarly work that

serves both academic and “real-world” audiences and goals, we aim to create something we know is difficult but we believe is well worth pursuing.

To sum up, NSJ’s mission is to publish rigorous analysis of pressing or emerging security challenges facing any nation and to contribute to the formulation of fair, credible solutions that balance the need for security, liberty and well-being.

The objectives of NSJ are to:

- provide a platform for the dissemination of high quality academic and professional research on current and emerging national security topics relating, but not limited, to New Zealand,
- foster research interaction between academic and professional communities on national security issues,
- encourage dissemination of international perspectives and practices on national security, and
- through occasional special issues publish focused research projects on various aspects of national security.

This first issue of NSJ sets the tone for what we hope will follow.

In its completed version, NSJ will consist of two sections:

1. A refereed section for academic contributions, where research has focused on topics of national security interest.
2. An open section for practitioners writing in their field of expertise on topics of national security significance.

Contributions to NSJ will initially be published in e-form as they are accepted, with a hard copy option anticipated, to be published twice a year. NSJ invites academics, post-graduate students and practitioners across the national security working space to contribute their research, knowledge and experience.

In this first issue, we present a set of original manuscripts covering a range of topics, commencing with New Zealand’s national security approach, terrorism, terrorism research, primary industry counterfeiting and the role of the private sector in national security. These articles were all written separately, but a common theme emerges – there are clear omissions in New Zealand’s approaches to national security in relation to counter terrorism, primary industry and the private sector. The authors call for more attention to them, as well as more collaboration in resolving the issues that are there.

NSJ particularly appreciate the work these contributors have done here and also for those agencies which have contributed financially to bring this project to fruition and allowed NSJ to become a platform of frank and informed discussion.

This first issue has been produced by the Managing Editor Dr John Battersby, with the assistance of a guest editorial board, comprising, Dr Rhys Ball, Mr Nicholas Dynon, Dr Wil Hoverd, Ms Dee McDonald, Mr Nick Nelson, Dr Negar Partow, Mr Chris Rothery. Invaluable editorial assistance has been provided by Ms Nicola Macaulay and Ms Liz Philipsen, with administrative support and assistance from Ms Pam Dolman and Ms Tania Lasenby.

With best wishes,

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Editor-in-Chief