

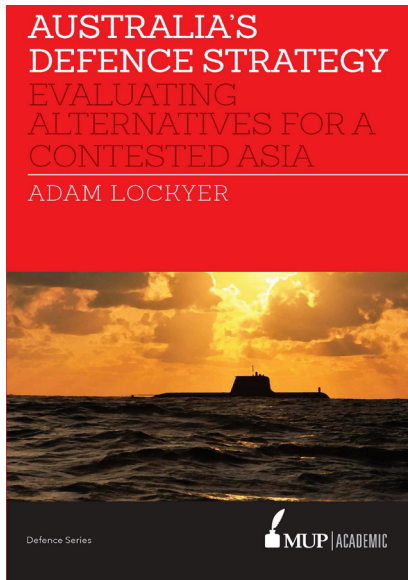
# MEDIA RELEASE

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PUBLICATION DATE: 30 Jan 2017

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## AUSTRALIA'S DEFENCE STRATEGY: EVALUATING ALTERNATIVES FOR A CONTESTED ASIA

By Adam Lockyer

*'Because enemies are in the habit of being uncooperative, defence planning always must be an exercise requiring major guesswork. Adam Lockyer's excellent book is suitably respectful of the basic logic of strategy, while endeavouring, sufficiently, I believe, to take duly prudent account of unwelcome strategic surprises in the future. The appearance of Australia's Defence Strategy is an important landmark in understanding the choices that Australians must make about their national security.'*—COLIN S. GRAY, PROFESSOR EMERITUS OF STRATEGIC STUDIES, UNIVERSITY OF READING

RRP Hardback \$79.99  
RRP Paperback \$59.99  
RRP eBook \$16.99

This title is part of MUP Academic's Defence Series

**Series Editors:** Dr Peter J Dean and  
Associate Professor Brendan Taylor

Adam Lockyer is available for interview  
from mid-January.

For more information please contact:

**Tessa Connelly** at MUP  
on 03 9035 3590 or 0434 626 779 or  
[tessa.connelly@unimelb.edu.au](mailto:tessa.connelly@unimelb.edu.au)

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Melbourne University Publishing



How would we know a good defence strategy if we saw one? The Asian Century is challenging many of the traditional assumptions at the heart of Australia's defence policy and strategy. Defence scholars have risen to the challenge of these transformational times and have collectively produced a smorgasbord of alternatives for policy-makers. The problem is that these recommendations all point in very different directions. How should we evaluate these options? In *Australia's Defence Strategy: Evaluating Alternatives for a Contested Asia*, Adam Lockyer tackles this question and develops a novel conceptual framework for evaluating defence strategies. By doing so, this book breaks new theoretical ground and makes an important contribution to our understanding of strategy in general and defence strategy in particular. Lockyer then applies this analytical tool to the leading arguments in Australia's defence debate and finds that there is still substantial work to be done. Lockyer concludes by proposing a new Australian defence strategy for a contested Asia that would pass the test for a 'good' defence strategy. The result is essential reading for anyone interested in strategy or the future of Australian defence policy.

**Adam Lockyer** is a senior lecturer in security studies at Macquarie University. He is also a research associate at the United States Studies Centre and was the 2015 Fulbright Scholar in US-Australian Alliance Studies.

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