



The Project on Advanced Systems and Concepts for Countering WMD (PASCC) is run at the Center on Contemporary Studies (CCC) and sponsored by the Defense Threat Reduction Agency (DTRA). PASCC awards and supports strategic studies and dialogues that anticipate and try to reduce the threat of WMD capabilities.



The CCC has a respected track record for providing research and timely analysis on a variety of topics to leading decision makers in the U.S. national security community. Located in the Naval Postgraduate School, the CCC is the research wing of the Department of National Security Affairs.

Research in Progress describes ongoing PASCC research. For more information, please contact pascc@nps.edu.

Published May 2015

American, Australian, and Japanese Perspectives on a Changing Security Environment

Performer: John Hopkins School of Advanced International Studies

Project Lead: Thomas Mahnken

Project Cost: \$100,000

FY15-16

Objective:

Respective bilateral ties between the United States and Australia and the United States and Japan have both enjoyed a long history of strong and cooperative relations. However, China's rise has highlighted how insufficient these old security partnerships look in a shifting security environment. A more accurate assessment of Australian, U.S., and Japanese attitudes on this issue is therefore needed. This project will seek to provide that assessment by looking at how all three states approach current and future threat perceptions, concerns about strategic uncertainties and policy planning, and thinking on how to strengthen deterrence and extended deterrence. Findings from the project will highlight convergent and divergent views of the security environment, threats, uncertainties, and deterrence between the United States and its two closest Asian allies. This will foster greater understanding in the three countries' security communities and raise awareness of security, deterrence, and proliferation issues outside the three countries.

Approach:

Research will be conducted to understand attitudes toward the security environment in all three countries. The research team will draft five research papers and circulate them to a small group of external reviewers. The papers will then be assembled into a final public report to answer the above questions co-authored by a team of experts from the United States, Australia, and Japan.