

**Professor Rory Medcalf AM** is Head of the National Security College at the Australian National University. His career spans diplomacy, academia, intelligence analysis, journalism and think tanks, including with the Lowy Institute. Professor Medcalf was a senior strategic analyst with the Office of National Assessments, Australia’s peak intelligence agency, and a diplomat with service in India, Japan and Papua New Guinea. He has played a lead role in Australia's informal diplomacy with India and a range of other countries. Professor Medcalf is recognised globally as a thought leader on the Indo-Pacific strategic concept, as articulated in his book *Contest for the Indo-Pacific* (published internationally as *Indo-Pacific Empire*). In June 2022 he was appointed a Member of the Order of Australia for significant service to international relations and tertiary education.