



Young Australians in International Affairs Celebrates 10 Years of Impact

On Tuesday 1 April, Young Australians in International Affairs (YAIA) marked a major milestone celebrating its 10-year anniversary in partnership with the Australian National University National Security College (NSC). The evening brought together honorary sector leaders, alumni, and supporters from across the international affairs community to reflect on a decade of developing the leaders of tomorrow, today.

Hosted by NSC, the event featured keynote addresses from YAIA Patron in Chief-, the Honourable Senator Penny Wong, Professor Rory Medcalf AM, Head of NSC, and YAIA CEO Sarah Ramantanis. Senator Wong commended YAIA's vital contribution to nurturing young voices in international affairs, while Professor Medcalf praised the organisation's commitment to fostering inclusive, forward-thinking leadership in an increasingly complex global environment.

In celebrating ten years of impact, Professor Medcalf highlighted the significance of the partnership with Young Australians in International Affairs, stating, "We're proud to partner with Young Australians in International Affairs in celebrating ten years of impact," and emphasised the importance of their work in fostering a more diverse and resilient policy community.

The panel discussion featured former YAIA CEO Renee Cremer; Alyssa Rahardja, Assistant Intelligence Analyst and former 'Young Woman to Watch in International Affairs'; Andrew Ramsay, Director of Program Design and Delivery at NSC; and Afeeya Akhand, Researcher at the Australian Strategic Policy Institute, who shared their insights on the evolving role of young Australians in navigating global challenges. From addressing disinformation and climate change to managing great power competition, the panellists underscored the importance of ensuring youth, female, First Nations, and intersectional perspectives are at the heart of future policy discussions.

The celebration was not only a reflection on the past decade, but a launchpad for the future of YAIA's mission—to ensure young Australians have a seat at the table in shaping international affairs.

This event could not have been possible without the generous support of NSC. As a long-term supporter of YAIA, their ongoing partnership has helped us create impactful opportunities for young Australians, and we look forward to continuing our collaboration in the years ahead.

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Learn more about the Young Australians in International Affairs:

<https://www.youngausint.org.au>

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