

# Walking the Talk: Is Australia's Engagement with the Pacific a 'Step up' or a Stumble?

## THE CAIRNS INSTITUTE POLICY PAPER SERIES LAUNCH

The release of Australia's Foreign Policy White Paper late last year had been much anticipated, not least because it was the first such paper in over a decade. Notable was that the Pacific island region (including Timor-Leste) had been accorded a chapter of its own. Responses to the White Paper have been mixed. Australia's choice of representation in the region is often mismatched, leading to squandered opportunities to establish and develop key relationships.

<https://researchonline.jcu.edu.au/55672/>

## THE AUTHOR

Tess Newton Cain is a former Lecturer in Law at the University of the South Pacific and has lived and worked in the Pacific islands region for over 20 years. She is a recognised expert in Pacific politics, policy and development with a particular focus on governance issues and the mechanics of Pacific regionalism. In this paper Newton Cain presents her analysis of the White Paper and examines the nature of Australia's engagement with the Pacific region since its publication to see what its impact may have been so far.

WEDNESDAY 14 NOVEMBER 2018 | 4:30pm – 6:00pm  
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