



**AUSTRALIA
INDIA
INSTITUTE**
Towards a peaceful and
prosperous Indo-Pacific

**AUSTRALIA INDIA
DEFENCE CONCLAVE**
FROM CONCEPTS TO CAPABILITY:
NEXT STEPS FOR THE DEFENCE RELATIONSHIP

MEDIA RELEASE

2025 AUSTRALIA INDIA DEFENCE CONCLAVE – FROM CONCEPTS TO CAPABILITIES

Wednesday, 8 October, 2025

Australian and Indian Defence experts will convene in Canberra tomorrow (October 9) for a high-level conclave designed to turn political intent into practical next steps for stronger defence ties and collaboration.

Indian Defence Minister Shri Rajnath Singh will provide the keynote address at the *2025 Australia India Defence Conclave – From Concepts to Capabilities: Next Steps for the Defence Relationship*, hosted by the Australia India Institute at Parliament House.

Australian Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Defence, The Hon. Richard Marles MP, said the scope of Australia’s defence relationship with India was unprecedented.

“Our bilateral defence engagement is seeing deepened cooperation and interoperability to the benefit of both our countries; in support of peaceful, stable and prosperous region.”

Supported by the Department of Defence, the inaugural Conclave will aim to translate this shared vision for the Indo-Pacific into tangible defence capabilities, building upon work contained in the Institute’s capstone report: [‘Building a Resilient Australia India Defence Relationship’](#). This will provide a clear framework for stronger defence ties and collaboration under the Institute’s Defence Program.

“This Conclave reflects our Institute’s enduring commitment to supporting frank, evidence-based discussions on how both countries can realise the full potential of their partnership,” said Australia India Institute CEO Lisa Singh.

“Through these discussions, we hope to inspire policy makers and practitioners to ensure we are contributing to a peaceful and prosperous Indo-Pacific region.”

Invited experts from defence operations, strategic and economic policy, industry, and academia will test ideas against regional concerns and real-world contingencies to develop concrete policy recommendations.

Key areas of bilateral interest to be addressed during the sessions include:

- Maritime cooperation and security challenges
- Strategic coordination in multilateral and regional forums
- Defence technology and industrial cooperation
- Secure connectivity and infrastructure
- Strengthening regional governance

For more information go to: <https://aii.unimelb.edu.au/australia-india-defence-conclave/>

Media Enquiries:

Laura Hooper

0481 484 571

Laura.Hooper@unimelb.edu.au