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## Lowy Institute launches MacArthur Foundation Asia Security Project

The Lowy Institute has launched a major new three-year project to explore the limits of security cooperation in Asia and promote measures to prevent the region's growing strategic rivalries from deepening and escalating into war.

Supported by a generous grant from the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation, the Lowy Institute will work alongside 26 other leading regional institutions as a partner to the MacArthur Foundation Asia Security Initiative, helping to shape a practical agenda for security cooperation. The Initiative was launched in Singapore on 29 May.

The Lowy Institute project recognises the rising risk of conflict and instability in Asia, as a shifting balance of power adds new stresses to a strategic environment already strained by nuclear weapons proliferation, historical grievances and unresolved territorial disputes.

The project will generate a series of publications and events, offering fresh thinking on:

- The limits of regional security cooperation
- How regional states can most productively cooperate within those limits, and
- Measures to minimise the risk of armed conflict in Asia.

Lowy Institute Executive Director Allan Gyngell welcomed the project, saying "The Asia Security Project aims to make a real and timely contribution to managing regional security challenges. It will build on the Institute's capacity to do cutting-edge research in an area which is critical to the security and prosperity of Australia and the world. The Institute will draw upon its findings in seeking to influence key policy-makers across the region, as well as to inform public understanding and debate."

The Lowy Institute MacArthur Foundation Asia Security Project will involve a world-class research team, led by Director of Studies Andrew Shearer and supported by Program Directors Malcolm Cook and Rory Medcalf, as well as Research Associate Raoul Heinrichs. The Lowy Institute is an independent policy think tank based in Sydney working to generate new ideas and dialogue on international developments and Australia's role in the world.

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**The Lowy Institute is an independent, non-partisan think tank which researches international political, strategic and economic issues from an Australian perspective.**  
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