

# SPC Forum



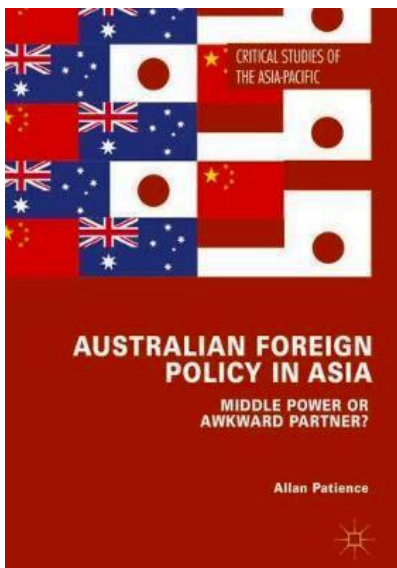
## Dr Allan Patience *The Future of Australian Foreign Policy*

**Wednesday 14 March 2018 7:30-9pm**

**Yarra Theological Union Study Centre  
34 Bedford Street Box Hill**

**Donations welcome**

**Nibbles and drinks available after the talk**



Associate Professor Allan Patience is a Principal Fellow in the School of Social and Political Sciences at the University of Melbourne. He has held chairs in political science and Asian studies in Australia, Papua New Guinea, and Japan as well as visiting academic appointments in China, Taiwan and Burma. He is also a member of the Research Institute on Social Cohesion, Community Resilience Unit, Victorian Department of Premier and Cabinet.

Prof. Patience has just published *Australian Foreign Policy in Asia: Middle Power or Awkward Partner*, examining what kind of 'middle power' Australia is, and whether its identity as a middle power negatively influences its relationship with Asia. It focuses on the dependent nature of Australia's middle power imagining due to both its historical colonial and discriminatory past, as well its current dependence upon the United States for a security alliance. It shows how this flawed middle power imagining contributes to Australia's positioning as an "awkward partner" in its relations with China, Japan and Indonesia in particular.

**social policy connections**

34 Bedford Street PO Box 505 Box Hill Victoria 3128  
03 9890 1077 | 0409 897 971 | [admin@socialpolicyconnections.com.au](mailto:admin@socialpolicyconnections.com.au)  
[www.socialpolicyconnections.com.au](http://www.socialpolicyconnections.com.au)