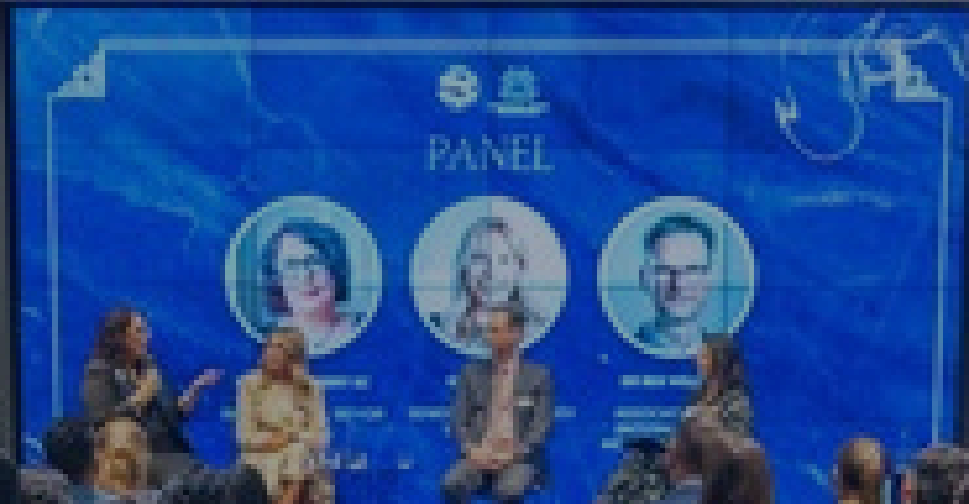


MONASH INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS SOCIETY

INSPIRING FUTURE WORLD LEADERS

2025
YEAR IN REVIEW





The Monash International Affairs Society respectfully acknowledges and pays respect to the Elders and Traditional Custodians of the land on which we operate, the Wurundjeri Woi Wurrung and Boon Wurrung peoples of the East Kulin nations.

We recognise that sovereignty was never ceded.
With gratitude, we aim to contribute to the ongoing care of Country through our work.

CONTENTS

About MIAS	1
President’s Message	2
MIAS Committee	3
MIAS Subcommittees	5
2025 at a Glance	6
Academics	8
Model United Nations	11
Global Model United Nations	15
Socials	16
Pivot	18
Sponsors and Partners	20
Work with Us	21

ABOUT MIAS

Established in 2011, The Monash International Affairs Society (MIAS) is a student-run, not-for-profit international affairs society based out of Monash University.

With over 490 members from a diverse range of disciplines across Monash, MIAS aims to provide its members with opportunities to engage with the international affairs community, and delve into global issues. Our events, including panel discussions and international Model United Nations Conferences, help students hone their public speaking, negotiation, and communication skills.

We strive to create a community where our members can develop relationships with international leaders in foreign affairs, question global affairs, and improve their tangible diplomatic skills.

CORE PILLARS

MIAS has three core pillars around which we structure our events and opportunities for students: Model United Nations, Academics and Socials.



MODEL UNITED NATIONS



ACADEMICS



SOCIALS

Model UN events include workshops, MUNash and our international Global MUN program.

Academic programs include panel discussions, guest speaking features networking nights.

Social events include coffee chats, games nights, and first years picnics.

ADDITIONAL PLATFORMS



Further, MIAS runs its publications channel PIVOT, and a podcast series called ATLAS, providing a multitude of creative outlets for international discourse and discussion.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Dear MIAS Community,

It has been an incredible honour to serve as your President of the Monash International Affairs Society in 2025.

This year marked a period of new heights for MIAS. We ambitiously delivered more events than ever before, launched new initiatives, strengthened partnerships, expanded sponsorships, grew our membership base, increased event attendance, and amplified our digital presence. I am most proud of the launch of MIAS' Model United Nations Outreach Program, designed to make MUN more accessible to underrepresented high school students.

Each milestone reflected our 2025 vision ambition: to build community, improve accessibility, and strengthen the systems and processes that sustain MIAS for the long term.

We strengthened student–faculty relationships, working closely with Monash Arts to foster belonging for Arts students through the You Belong with Monash Arts initiatives, Open Day activities, and the development of the Arts Common Room. We ensured student voices were heard through contributing student feedback to the Office of the Vice-Chancellor, the Faculty of Arts, and the Faculty of Law.

I have not always felt that spaces in policy, law, or international affairs were designed with people like me in mind. Yet, I look at MIAS and see a powerful reflection of diversity—of culture, discipline, background, nationality, and lived experience. The 2025 committee was one of the most diverse in MIAS' history led by a committee comprised largely of individuals from underrepresented backgrounds. Our commitment to equity and inclusion was also reflected in the professionals we platformed, consistently centring women and people of colour.

At MIAS, we believe young leaders must be global citizens: curious, compassionate, and grounded in diverse perspectives. Only then can they create meaningful and sustainable change.

As MIAS prepares to welcome another generation of vibrant leaders, I extend my sincere gratitude to our students, attendees, sponsors, partners, and guests who made this year possible. Finally, to the 2025 committee your dedication, creativity and care allowed MIAS to thrive.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Esther Chen".

2025 President

2025 MIAS COMMITTEE

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE



ESTHER CHEN

President
(she/her)



ALINA YASSER

Vice-President
(she/her)



VY TRAN

Secretary
(she/her)



TOM SUN

Treasurer
(he/him)

OFFICERS



NOVICA PEARSALL

Model United Nations
Officer
(she/her)



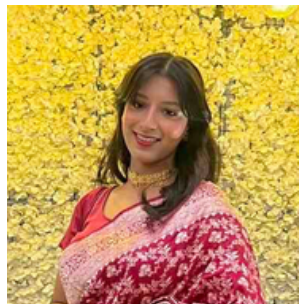
EAMON SOMERVILLE

Model United Nations
Officer
(he/him)



NATHANIAL LOUEY

Academics Officer
Careers & Internships
(he/him)



MAIYSHA MOIN

Academics Officer
Events & Faculty
Relations
(she/her)

2025 MIAS COMMITTEE



OLIVIA MARSHALL

Marketing Officer
(she/her)



MATIN ATMACA

Media Officer
(he/him)

SEMESTER 1



BENING ALTHAF

Sponsorships Officer
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EVA MASON

Socials Officer
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ALEX HARRIS

First Years Officer
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MIA FENTON

Media Officer
(she/her)

SEMESTER 2



THOMAS WHITE

Publications Officer
(he/they)

SEMESTER 2

2025 MIAS SUB-COMMITTEE



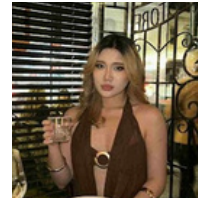
AARMISH FATIMA

Academics
(she/her)



AIDYN WONG

Academics
(he/him)



AMY HO

Media
(she/her)



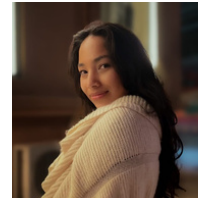
ANANYA PRADHAN

Model United Nations
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ANNIE PHAN

Media
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**APEKCHHYA
SHRESTHA**

Marketing
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CALEB MURPHY

Academics
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**FRANCESCA
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Media
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GEMMA COLEY

Model United Nations
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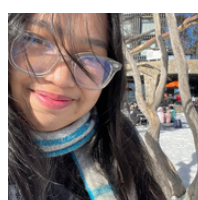
**HUXLEY
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Socials & First Years
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ISABELLA PUGLIA

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JOAN LIM

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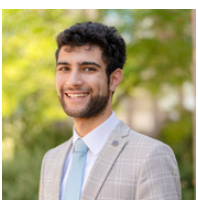
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NICHOLAS DICKSON

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OSCAR THOMAS

Socials & First Years
(he/him)



PATRICK LIU

Model United Nations
(he/him)



AT A GLANCE

Insights into our
successes and
achievements
throughout 2025

37 Events Total
3.1x the amount in
2024

25 Pivot Articles Published

17 International MUN
Awards: Including 2
Outstanding Delegations

35 Committee Members total
through new Subcommittee
Initiatives.

60% Increased funding secured
for 2026 GlobalMUN

33% Increase in Membership

39% Increase in Event
Attendance

2025 was a year of
new frontiers for **MIAS**
This was our most
active and strong year
in our Club history

HIGHLIGHTS

ALMOST 500 STUDENT MEMBERS

Alongside O-Week and extensive engagement across Monash faculties, MIAS built a diverse membership base of **490 members**.

PIVOT PUBLICATION REVITALISATION

This year, MIAS' Publication PIVOT saw an uptick in the number of articles, with **25 articles** published. This marks the greatest number of articles published in any in-person university year since COVID-19 restrictions.

STRENGTHENING PARTNERSHIPS

This year, MIAS strengthened existing, and cemented **many new relationships** with organisations, including: Global Victoria, UNICEF Australia, The Melbourne Consular Corps, US Consulate General Office, Global Victoria, Indo-Pacific Studies Centre, Office of the Vice Chancellor, Monash Law, Monash Arts, Monash Business School, Access Monash and Monash Scholars.

STRATEGIC SPONSORSHIPS

MIAS experienced unprecedented sponsorship growth in 2025, with **record-high sponsorship value** across both financial and in-kind support. Monetary Major sponsorships from the Law Faculty, and Arts Faculty. MIAS further secured a **60% increase** in GlobalMUN funding from Monash Abroad for 2026.

RECORD BREAKING MUNASH

This year's MUNash was the largest MUNash ever and the largest national tertiary MUN conference. We welcomed **165 guests** across 8 committees. We also saw the largest number of interstate delegate attendance.

RECORD BREAKING INTERNATIONAL DELEGATIONS AWARDS

MIAS' Model UN delegations continued to be a success, with **17 international awards obtained**, the highest of any year in MIAS history.

INCREASED SOCIAL MEDIA OUTREACH

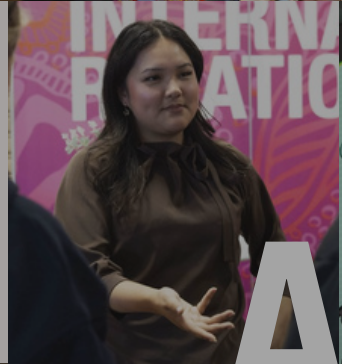
MIAS was pleased to reach **over 2000 followers** on Instagram, 950 on LinkedIn, and 4100 on Facebook.

2025 EXCEPTIONAL LEADER OF THE YEAR

MIAS' President Esther Chen was honoured at the C&S Awards Night with the inaugural Exceptional Leader of the Year award. This award pays tribute to Esther's incredible vision and dedication to MIAS over this year.

UNPRECEDENTED EVENTS

In 2025, MIAS held **3.1x the number of events as 2024** - culminating in 35 distinct initiatives, and two Orientation drives, with **39% increase in attendance** across all events,



ACADEMICS



ACADEMICS

UN YOUTH REPRESENTATIVE CONSULTATION

MIAS hosted UN Youth Australia's Director of Research to understand the perspectives and concerns of young Australians, to feed into an address to the United Nations General Assembly in October.



DRINKS AND LINKS

We co-hosted our Drinks and Links night with the Society of Arts Students. With over 90 students and 30 professionals in attendance, the evening was an enormous success. Attendees were able to use the evening to network with young professionals and explore potential future career pathways.

LOCAL CONFERENCE OF YOUTH (LCOY)

Together with UNICEF Australia, MIAS hosted an LCOY, an opportunity for young Australians to have their perspectives heard and fed into national, regional, and global youth statements on Climate Change.



CHILD DIGITAL RIGHTS CASE COMPETITION

MIAS hosted a case competition alongside UNICEF Australia, hearing proposals from several student teams on Australian and International technology, AI and online security policy.

DIPLOMATIC GALA

With over 150 students and 40 professionals in attendance, our annual Diplomatic Gala Networking Night was a great success. The evening began with an insightful speech by Ema Lawrence, Director of Global Engagement at Global Victoria, before we were lucky enough to be joined by panellists: Grace Cullen from Cyber CX, Ben Wellings from Monash University Faculty of Arts, and International Senior Counsel, Dr. Felicity Gerry KC. The discussions provided students with a view into a career in the international relations industry and advice when moving forward after university.

Throughout the night the guests and students were also given a range of opportunities to network. Many interesting and insightful conversations were had and we want to thank the many guests who attended, including:

- **Andrew Mendelawitz:** Honorary Consul, Consulate of Guatemala
- **Brian Bauer:** Head of Public Affairs, US Consulate
- **Professor David Copolov AO:** Pro Vice-Chancellor, Major Campuses and Student Engagement at Monash University
- **Krushnadevsinh Ravalji:** Youth Victorian Multicultural Commissioner
- **Wajid Hassan Hasmi:** Consul General, Consulate General of Pakistan
- **Jacob Goldschlager:** Senior Political/Economic Advisor, US Consulate
- **Paul O'Hagan:** Lead - UK, Europe & North America, Global Victoria
- **Armando Munoz:** Director of Innovation, Save the Children Australia
- **Christian Wood:** Honorary Consul, Honorary Consulate of Paraguay
- **Javed Pathan:** Senior Student Engagement and Employability Coordinator, Faculty of Law
- **Mel Marquis:** Deputy Associate Dean, Monash Law
- **Arshiya Merchant:** Consultant, Oliver Wyman
- **Habib Chanzi:** Honorary Consul, Consulate of The United Republic of Tanzania, Melbourne
- **Linton Lethlean:** Honorary Consul General, Republic of Maldives
- **Shannon Hick:** Public Engagement Manager, US Consulate
- **Jesse Dass:** Graduate, Austrade
- **Conrad Tribble:** US Consulate General Melbourne
- **Christine Tribble:** Diplomat at Department of State
- **Lincoln Ingravalle:** UNICEF Australia Youth Ambassador
- **Molina Asthana:** Founder of Multicultural Women in Sport
- **Wesa Chau:** DFAT Advisory Board Member
- **Racheline Tamtular:** Board Member, AEAN–Australia Strategic Youth Partnership; Consultant, SIPA Partners
- **Ryan Attard:** Associate at Johnson Winter Slattery





MODEL UNITED NATIONS



MODEL UNITED NATIONS

12 MUN EVENTS | 2 INTERNATIONAL TRIPS | 400+ ATTENDEES

MUNDAYS

This year, MIAS held more Model UN events than ever before, with the launch of our new MUNDays programme, offering fortnightly Model UN training and negotiations. The program was a fantastic success, allowing all students to gain access to training in public speaking, policy writing, and negotiations. Participants were taught how to improve their skills in these three skill areas through lessons on theory, and then put this to practice through tailored Model UN debates. We hosted over 180 MUNDays attendees across 10 different training sessions.



PUB MUN

Another new event on the Model UN calendar, MIAS hosted two Pub MUNs this year, with the goal of bridging socials and Model UN to allow for more relaxed debate. The events drew in high numbers including many attendees who were new to Model UN and MIAS.



MODEL UNITED NATIONS

HIGH SCHOOL OUTREACH | THREE INTERSTATE DELEGATIONS

Model UN Outreach

This year, MIAS implemented a Model UN Outreach Program, where MIAS members conduct Model UN's at high schools across Victoria. Working alongside Access Monash, this program ensures accessible access to academic initiatives, with the goal of supporting students' educational and social development.



Interstate Delegations

For the first time since COVID-19, MIAS led delegations to tertiary Model UN Conferences across Australia within a collective program. These delegations included Swinburne University, Wollongong University, and The University of Sydney where Monash teams brought back 13 awards. These delegations contributed to strengthening Australia's tertiary Model UN circuit bringing more delegates, knowledge-sharing and connectedness throughout the country.



In 2025, MIAS hosted our largest annual MUNash Conference, with over 165 guests. This made it the largest tertiary MUN conference in Australia. In addition, MIAS hosted delegates from high schools and universities across Victoria, as well as - for the first time - inter-state universities including the Australian National University, Wollongong University, The University of New South Wales, and the University of Sydney.

During the conference, MIAS co-hosted an opportunities and career-readiness event with the Young Diplomats Society. The event provided delegates with insights into CV-building, application writing, securing scholarships and interviews, and planning a career in international relations.

Additionally, we held presentations from incredible guest speakers across our Opening and Closing ceremonies. We would like to say thank you to all of our distinguished guest speakers who were able to provide key insights into working within multilateral spheres, and how to utilise diplomatic skills to shape a meaningful career in international affairs. Our guest speakers were as follows:

- Yasmine Poole - Plan International Australia National Ambassador
- Richard Fosu - International Relations Academic & Researcher
- Daniel Flitton - Managing Editor, Lowy Institute's 'The Interpreter'

During the conference, we hosted eight committees discussing a variety of topics, which were:

- United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF)
- World Health Organization (WHO)
- Human Rights Council (HRC)
- United Nations Education, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO)
- United Nations Environment Assembly (UNEA)
- Decline of the Soviet Socialist Republics (Crisis Committee)
- United Nations Security Council (UNSC)
- International Press Gallery (IPG)

We would like to pay a great thanks to our organising secretariat who put in hours of hard work into making the conference what it was: Eamon Somerville and Vy Tran (Secretary's General), Nathaniel Louey and Alina Yasser (USGs for Committees), Alex Harris and Eva Mason (USGs for Socials), Carli Barbaro and Tom Sun (USGs for Welfare), Bening Althaf (USG for Finance), and Joan Lim and Miranda Liu (USGs for Communications)



GLOBAL MODEL UNITED NATIONS NEW YORK AND BANFF



In 2025, 25 students travelled to North America to participate in the National Model United Nations New York and International conferences. Both teams did exceptionally well and we are very proud of all their hard work and dedicated preparation.



NEW YORK DELEGATION:

Tom Sun, Erin Page (Head Delegates), Elina Forsyth, Eamon Somerville (Leadership), Anila Mcloughlin, Carli Barbaro, Emily Roggero, Eva Mason, Gabrielle De Robillard, Katrina Xu, Matteo Vavala, Olivia Marshall, Olivia Weinberg and William Poon



We congratulate the entire New York Team on their Outstanding Delegation Award (the highest award at NMUN). This year MIAS on behalf of Monash achieved the second highest university ranking across the conference. We would also like to recognise the following delegates for their individual awards:



Erin Page, Elina Forsyth, Eamon Somerville, Anila Mcloughlin, Carli Barbaro, Emily Roggero, Eva Mason, Katrina Xu, Matteo Vavala, Olivia Marshall, Olivia Weinberg, and William Poon

BANFF DELEGATION:

Nicholas Dimetrou-Dickson, Alina Yasser (Head Delegates), Eric Stone (Leadership), Tommy Auwardt, John Burgess, Ina Christensen, William Lardner, Joan Lim, Miranda Liu, Vanessa Marcon and Kalan Scrivener



We congratulate the entire Banff Team on their Outstanding Delegation Award. We would also like to recognise the following delegates for their individual awards:

Alina Yasser, Eric Stone, Tommy Auwardt, John Burgess, Ina Christensen, William Lardner, Joan Lim, and Miranda Liu.



SOCIALS

MONASH
LINGUISTICS
SOCIETY

International Affairs Society,
Monash (MIAS)

MIAS
Monash International Affairs Society
Inspiring Future
World Leaders
Model UN
Academic Events
Social Events
mias.org.au
mias@monashclubs.org
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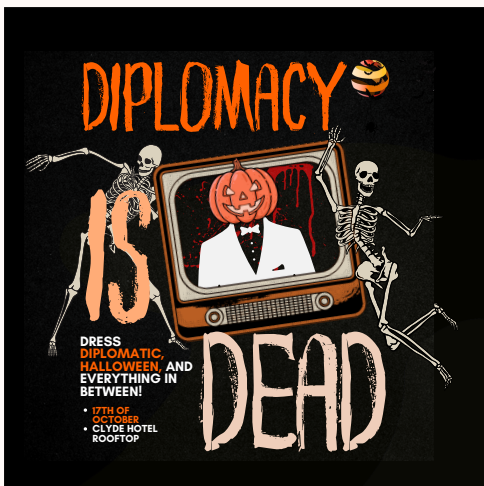
SOCIALS

Our socials portfolio this year conducted a variety of social events including regular coffee chats for our members, providing opportunities for students to make connections and learn about MIAS in a relaxed and comfortable environment.



OGM & TRIVIA NIGHT

With over 70 students in attendance, our Ordinary General Meeting and Trivia Night was a standout, helping students create bonds at the beginning of the year, and introducing students to the inner workings of MIAS.




END OF YEAR GATHERING

To celebrate the end of the year, MIAS hosted a fun gathering for our committee and members, allowing students to spend quality time together, reflect on the friendships made throughout the year, and toast to the many successful and fun events throughout the year.



COFFEE CORNERS

Our semi-regular coffee catch up series series was a great way for members of the MIAS community to connect, chat and get to know a little bit more about MIAS. Additionally, ahead of professional events, networking tips were provided, ensuring understanding of opportunities and discussions for all attendees.

PIVOT 

NEW ARTICLE

BURNING BOOKS, BOMBING CAMPUSES: THE LOGIC OF INTELLECTUAL DESTRUCTION

6 MINUTE READ

ALESSANDRO SALAMONE

»»

FULL ARTICLE ON PIVOT.MIAS.ORG.AU

FRONTIER IN FOREIGN POLICY

9 MINUTE READ

ALICE AE JACKSON

»»

FULL ARTICLE ON PIVOT.MIAS.ORG.AU

PIVOT 

NEW ARTICLE

INDONESIA REFORMASI 2.0: THE POLITICAL ECHOES OF 1998 MOVEMENTS WITH CONTEMPORARY 17+8 DEMANDS

8 MINUTE READ

MUHAMMAD FARREL NUGROHO

»»

FULL ARTICLE ON PIVOT.MIAS.ORG.AU

PIVOT 

NEW ARTICLE


AUSTRALIA-CANADA: THE ALLIANCE GROWING IN IMPORTANCE

7 MINUTE READ

RAHUL DEEPAK KUMAR

»»

FULL ARTICLE ON PIVOT.MIAS.ORG.AU

PIVOT 

NEW ARTICLE


THE KENNEDY LEGACY: A GEN Z TWIST, FAMILY DIVISIONS, AND AN ALL- AMERICAN LOVE STORY

8 MINUTE READ

LIZZY BINGHAM

»»

FULL ARTICLE ON PIVOT.MIAS.ORG.AU

PIVOT 

NEW ARTICLE

HISTORY V. GEOGRAPHY: UNDERSTANDING AUSTRALIA'S APPROACH TO NATIONAL DEFENCE


6 MINUTE READ

LAKMALIE WIJESINGHE

»»

FULL ARTICLE ON PIVOT.MIAS.ORG.AU

PIVOT

PIVOT 

NEW ARTICLE

AUTHORITARIANISM, DEMOCRACY, AND THE CLIMATE: COMPARING THE EU AND CHINA'S CLIMATE GOVERNANCE

9 MINUTE READ

CALEB MURPHY

»»

FULL ARTICLE ON PIVOT.MIAS.ORG.AU

NEW ARTICLE


PROTECTOR OR PUPPETEER: ISRAEL'S WEAPONISATION OF SECTS AND SOVEREIGNTY IN SYRIA

7 MINUTE READ

ROFIDA ARNAOUT

»»

FULL ARTICLE ON PIVOT.MIAS.ORG.AU

PIVOT 

NEW ARTICLE


THE RESTARTING OF HISTORY AND THE DECLINE OF THE LIBERAL DEMOCRATIC ORDER

8 MINUTE READ

EAMON SOMERVILLE

»»

FULL ARTICLE ON PIVOT.MIAS.ORG.AU

PIVOT 

NEW ARTICLE

WHO ARE THE TEHRIK- TALIBAN PAKISTAN AND

PIVOT 

NEW ARTICLE

ITO AY MANIFESTONG DEMOKRASYA: ELECTIONS, POLITICAL CULTURE, AND YOUTH POWER IN AUSTRALIA AND THE PHILIPPINES

6 MINUTE READ

THOMAS (TOYO) WHITE

»»

PIVOT 

NEW ARTICLE

NATIONALISM, FEMICIDE, AND NEW MASCULINITIES:

PIVOT

25 ARTICLES PUBLISHED - A 66% INCREASE FROM 2024

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- Vy Tran
- Thomas (Toyo) White
- Lakmalie Wijesinghe

JOURNALISM WORKSHOP

This year the PIVOT team hosted the first ever Journalism workshop. The workshops taught students about different news styles, quoting and how to identify and produce stories. The event was instrumental in garnering more PIVOT writers.



SPONSORS AND PARTNERS

MIAS is a student and volunteer-led non-profit organisation. We are supported by a series of partners and sponsors whose purpose is to invest in young leaders. We write with acknowledgement that our external and internal stakeholders enable us to achieve our mission: inspiring future world leaders.

Our student society has achieved spectacular feats and nurtured extraordinary talents. Above all, with the resources provided by our partners, we are able to create authentic discussion space where students and experts gather and debate.

Below, we note our supporters, partners and sponsors with gratitude and thanks.

MONASH UNIVERSITY

Faculty of Arts
Faculty of Law
Arts Alumni
Business School
Monash Abroad
Monash Scholars
Access Monash
Professor David Copolov AO

CLUBS & STUDENT SOCIETIES

Monash Clubs & Societies
Monash Society of Arts Students
Young Diplomats Society
UN Youth Australia
Swinburne MUN Society
Wollongong MUN Society

EXTERNAL ENGAGEMENTS

Consular Corps Melbourne
UNICEF Australia
US Consulate General, Melbourne
Global Victoria

EXTERNAL ENGAGEMENTS

NESSO
Cafelito
Grafali's Coffee Roasters
Joe's Pizza
Guzman Y Gomez
Sulbing Cafe



WORK WITH US

INSPIRING FUTURE WORLD LEADERS

CONTACT US



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**MONASH INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS
SOCIETY (MIAS)**



The Monash International Affairs Society wishes the 2026 committee every success. We know their dedication and inventiveness will reap wonderful results!

We cannot wait to see how MIAS continues to grow!