



The Fellowship Programme

PAUL CHAMBERLAIN

Indo-Pacific defence policy and maritime security professional
PhD candidate

[Australian National University](#)

Paul Chamberlain is an Indo-Pacific defence policy and maritime security professional with over 15 years of experience in defence, intelligence, and policy roles in the Canadian government. He is a PhD candidate at the Australian National University's Strategic and Defence Studies Centre, within the Coral Bell School of Asia Pacific Affairs. His research examines the role of sea power as an instrument of statecraft in the contemporary Indo-Pacific region, with case studies of Australia, Japan, and Singapore. He holds a Master of Arts in Political Science and a Bachelor of Arts (Honours) in Social Sciences with First Class Honours in Politics.

He is the Research Fellow for Indo-Pacific Sea Power at the Yokosuka Council on Asia Pacific Studies (YCAPS). In 2025-2026, he was a Visiting Research Fellow at the National Institute for Defense Studies (NIDS) in Tokyo, Japan. Chamberlain has held a range of defence and security-related postings across the Government of Canada. As the first civilian Policy Advisor to the Commander of the Royal Canadian Navy, he provided strategic counsel to senior leadership, developed policy positions on domestic and international issues, and sharpened the alignment of the navy's global engagement activities with Canadian strategic priorities. Before starting his doctoral studies, Chamberlain ran Canada's defence relations with Southeast Asian states and ASEAN in the Directorate of Indo-Pacific Policy at the Department of National Defence (DND). Other positions include at the Directorate of Strategic Analysis in DND, the Canadian Security Intelligence Service, and the Privy Council Office.

