



The Fellowship Programme

WESLEY NICOL

PhD Candidate

[The Norman Paterson School of International Affairs](#)

Wesley Nicol is a PhD candidate at Carleton University's Norman Paterson School of International Affairs in Ottawa. His dissertation research examines geoeconomic competition and Chinese economic statecraft, with a focus on how middle power states manage the relationship between economic openness and national security interests in the critical minerals, critical infrastructure, and research security sectors. He has also published work on AUKUS, NATO and UN peacekeeping operations, and topics in the Canadian Armed Forces. Wesley's professional experience is with the Department of National Defence. Wesley is currently a principal investigator for a Mobilizing Insights in Defence and Security (MINDS)-funded project awarded by the Department of National Defence on critical minerals, and a visiting fellow at the Coral Bell School of Asia Pacific Affairs at the Australian National University in Canberra.

