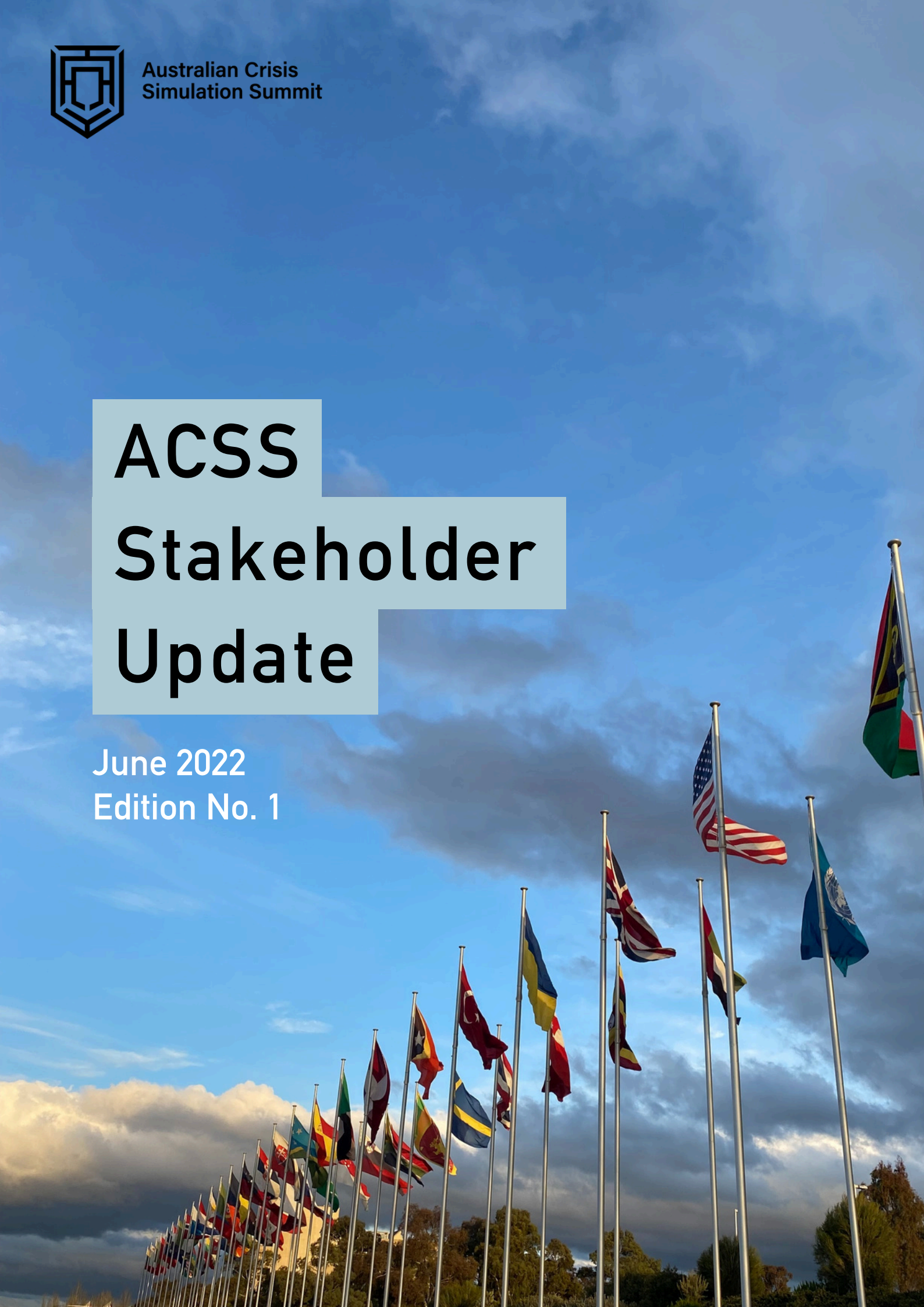




Australian Crisis  
Simulation Summit

# ACSS Stakeholder Update

June 2022  
Edition No. 1





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## What's happening now?

All three crisis writing teams have now completed a first draft of the simulation narrative and are currently receiving external feedback.

Delegate applications are NOW open on our website and CLOSE on Wednesday 20th July.

**IMPORTANT DATES:** This year's Summit will run from the 5th - 9th of December.





# Message from the Director



**GENEVIEVE LUMB**  
ACSS DIRECTOR, 2022

With just over five months to go until the third iteration of the ACSS, our team has been working hard to ensure that all aspects of the Summit are progressing smoothly! We are proud to announce that we have officially commenced the delegate selection process. This operation has been spearheaded by our Head of Delegate Experience, Jacob Huth, and we are very thankful for the hard work of Jacob and his team, Asya and Kishaya. We are looking forward to receiving applications from prospective future leaders in the national security space from across the country.

Our hardworking Crisis Operations teams have been diligently working on three distinct and detailed simulation narratives. Having just completed a first draft, the teams are receiving valuable feedback from our Lead Academic Consultants and senior policy, academic and industry experts from across Australia. Our Education and Research team is working on an expanded program of podcasts, covering our three simulations, the development of the ACSS and several topical issues.

The above initiatives are only a sample of many ongoing projects developing from within the ACSS. As an Executive, we are incredibly proud of the work that has been undertaken by our team so far and we are looking forward to seeing what the next few months hold!

***Genevieve Lumb***

0423490481  
[acss@anu.edu.au](mailto:acss@anu.edu.au)



# Meet our 2022 team



**GENEVIEVE LUMB**  
DIRECTOR



**MONIQUE WORSLEY**  
DEPUTY DIRECTOR



**LIAM SYNAN**  
HEAD OF EDUCATION AND  
RESEARCH

Education and Research  
Officers  
Tim Barham  
Ethan Montagnino  
Alyssa Rahardja  
Alex Bulley  
Isla Walker



**JACOB HUTH**  
HEAD OF DELEGATE EXPERIENCE

Social Officers  
Kishaya Lye  
Asya Han



**DARLENE ROWLANDS**  
HEAD OF MARKETING AND  
COMMUNICATIONS

Social Media Officer  
Bri Collett  
  
Communications Officer  
Ben Casey Brown



**LUCAS GREENSLADE**  
HEAD OF CRISIS OPERATIONS

Head Crisis Writers  
Anastasia Kalloniati  
Elly Chen  
Aidan Riley  
Jong-Hoon Park

Crisis Writers  
Ashley Gerdan  
Eliza Gudgeon  
Will Backwell  
Emily Luton  
Bella Cremer-Harvey  
Mikaela Ball  
Will Etwell



**ANGUS BROOKS**  
HEAD TECHNOLOGY OFFICER

Technology Officers  
Jack Williams  
Nirvan Shivanani



# Update on Our Crisis Operations Team

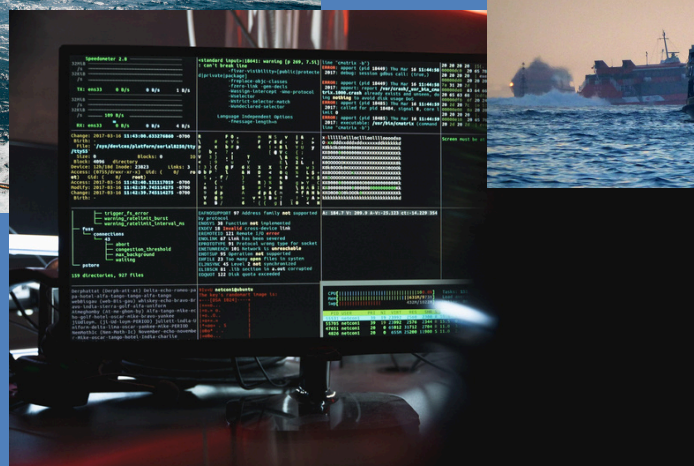
For the past few months the Head of Crisis Operations has been working closely with the crisis writing teams and the Executive Team to develop crisis simulation narratives which will provide an engaging educational experience for delegates. We have had lengthy discussions about how to frame the crisis simulations in a way that realistically explores significant issues for Australian national security, within the broad categories of non-traditional, regional and domestic security.

At various points, we have had to make significant revisions to the narratives due to issues of feasibility and sensitivity of the simulation content. In making these decisions, we have carefully consulted relevant stakeholders and academic experts who have extensive subject area knowledge and have granted us confidence in our narrative choices.

At times, there has been a tension between our desire to explore realistic issues in Australian national security, and the necessity of considering ACSS supporters and their political or cultural sensitivities. We have, of course, considered these sensitivities at all steps of our narrative deliberation, and are confident that our simulations strike a good balance between reality and sensitivity. By 1 July, we will have completed drafts for all three of our simulations. Discussions will continue with academics and industry professionals to make further edits to the simulations, endowing them with the expert knowledge necessary to make them a valuable and rewarding educational experience for delegates.



**LUCAS GREENSLADE**  
CRISIS OPERATIONS





# Our Crisis Simulations

## Regional Crisis

The regional crisis simulation focuses on Australia's relationships with important regional actors in the Pacific and Southeast Asia. Delegates will have to respond to a series of seismic events which place strain on our aid relationships, security cooperation and diplomatic engagement with the region. What are the most imminent regional threats to Australian security? How can we strengthen our regional partnerships to best prepare for these inevitable threats? And further, how might new developments in AI military technology complicate our engagement with the region?

## Domestic Crisis

The domestic crisis simulation explores the consequences of a major cyber attack on Australia's critical infrastructure, with a focus on how it would affect the Australia-US relationship. The simulation will force delegates to confront the realities of Australia's cyber vulnerabilities in civilian and military infrastructure. Is our increasing reliance on new technologies increasing the scale of a possible cyber attack? Delegates will also be exposed to the Australia-US military technology and intelligence sharing relationship. What are the new technologies being developed? Could a well-orchestrated cyber attack place strain on our relationship? What are the pressure-points, and areas of vulnerability?

## Non-Traditional Crisis

The 2022 non-traditional crisis focuses on the maritime domain and law of the sea. Within the context of an ongoing oil crisis and South China Sea-like contestation, delegates will role play as Australian government agencies, NGO's and international actors to secure Australia's international interests. A series of crises will force Australia to make use of the UN Convention on Law of the Sea (UNCLOS) to reach resolutions on a range of disputes among regional actors. Delegates will explore issues of aid and soft power, contested waters, maritime crime and how the law deals with non-state actors.







# Message from Academic Consultant

I'm really delighted to be supporting ACSS as an academic adviser for the third year running. As in previous years, I'm working with the ACSS crisis operations team to help develop and refine the Regional Simulation. In 2020 and 2021 the Regional Simulation was focussed on the Pacific Islands region; this year the focus will shift somewhat but I won't say anything more than that at this stage...

As someone who has previously worked as an Australian diplomat in the immediate region, I've been able to draw on my career experience to road-test ideas generated by the crisis operations team. But I'm only in a supporting role: there's no doubt that this is a student-led, and student-run, event. Indeed, that's one of the reasons it's such an inspiring activity. As in past years, I'm super impressed by the commitment and energy of the students involved in all the preparatory work which has been underway for months already.



**JAMES BATLEY**  
DISTINGUISHED POLICY  
FELLOW



Although December still feels like it's a way off, I know the Summit itself will be worth waiting for. I look forward to playing my own small part as a mentor or role-player. It will be an intense, sometimes frustrating, always exciting experience for all participants. The Regional Simulation in particular will give participants genuine insights into some of the real-world challenges and dilemmas that policymakers face on a daily basis. I'm sure that a number of Australia's future policymakers in the field of national security will be taking part as participants in the Summit.

*- James Batley*



# Update from Head of Delegate Experience

Following the re-opening of Australia, the Delegate Experience team is excited to utilise in-person participation of delegates in hubs across the country. These in-person hubs, facilitated by our dedicated Hub Coordinators, will serve as the basis for ACSS operations across the country. The nation wide hubs will enable a greater breadth of perceptions, opinions, ideas, and critical analysis of the crisis simulations that one city cannot achieve on its own. In 2022, a vibrant ACSS community is the focus of the Delegate Experience team with the help of the Hub Coordinators in this 'post-Covid-19' era. Prior to the Summit week occurring during the 5th to the 9th of December, delegates will be exposed to a broad range of thought provoking exercises and material including podcasts, workshops, and debates, alongside social events. We are extremely fortunate to have the opportunity to expand upon the inspiring entrepreneurship of the 2020 and 2021 ACSS teams to continue the mission of building the capacity of our future national security leaders.



**JACOB HUTH**  
DELEGATE  
EXPERIENCE

The Delegate Experience team will also be building upon the delegate selection process to include peer-reviewed evidence-driven quantitative analysis tools to balance the qualitative written application and interviews. This additional quantitative analysis will increase the efficiency of the selection process without limiting the effectiveness of selecting quality delegates.

Building on the momentum of previous years, the ACSS 2022 Executive and wider team is keen to leave their mark on the future of the national security community and the legacy of the ACSS. It must be noted that Covid-19 has not disappeared, and the Delegate Experience is aware of this and developing risk management strategies. These strategies are defined by resilience, perseverance, adaptability, and innovation to continue to provide the best experience for delegates whilst prioritising their safety. The Executive team looks forward to receiving applications from across Australia and providing delegates a memorable and motivational experience for their careers going forward.

## 2021 Delegate Testimony: Anastasia Kalloniati

"Being a delegate to the ACSS in 2021 was an invaluable experience which continues to pay dividends. Not only did I have the opportunity to meet other students who shared my interest in national security (that I continue to keep in contact with), but the experience opened my eyes to the diverse range of security careers available to me. Through the simulations specifically, I was able to demonstrate a variety of skills in a realistic yet enjoyable environment. Using these skills has allowed me to be involved in unique academic and professional experiences that I am confident I would not have been able to partake in had I not attended the ACSS. I would not hesitate to recommend the ACSS to any peer or colleague."





# What's Next for the ACSS 2022

## Hub Coordinators

In the ACSS' efforts to extend the organisation to a national level, hubs across capital cities in Australia have been created. This is to facilitate interstate student participation without the need to be in-person in Canberra. A headquarters based at the ANU in Canberra will be linked to a critical mass of students across the country via teleconferencing, live streaming, the Conductrr crisis simulation software, virtual event management software, and other technologies.



The 2022 Hub Coordinators have been selected and will lead the ACSS from their representative hub locations in Perth, Adelaide, Melbourne, Canberra, Sydney, Brisbane and our virtual hub.

These committed and driven individuals will be introduced in next month's update.

## Introducing Our 2022 Sponsors

Next month the ACSS will be proud to announce this year's sponsors. It is these sponsors that allow the summit to grow each year and continue to create a collaborative security community centred around engaging the minds of the next generation of aspiring security leaders.

