

Yusuke Ishihara is Research Fellow of National Institute for Defense Studies (NIDS), specializing in Japan's defence engagement in the Asia-Pacific, with a particular focus on Japan-US-Australia relations. His publications include "Japan-Australia Defence Cooperation in the Asia-Pacific Region," William Tow and Tomonori Yoshizaki (eds) *Beyond the Hub-and-Spokes* (NIDS, 2014) and Australia Chapter in *East Asian Strategic Review 2013 and 2014*. From April 2014 to May 2015, He served as Deputy Director in International Policy Division, Bureau of Defense Policy, Ministry of Defense Japan, where he mainly handled Japan's policies vis-à-vis ASEAN and regional multilateral defense cooperation in the Asia-Pacific region.