

Country Briefing – Australia

Political Briefing

Introduction

Despite being located in the Pacific Australia is geographically distant, but politically close to Taiwan. In addition Australia is also closely allied to the United States and has staunchly opposed Chinese ambitions before the war.

National Strategy

Diplomatically Australia is part of the Quadrilateral Security Dialogue (a diplomatic and military alliance between Australia, the US, India, and Japan built to combat Chinese influence and the Belt and Road Initiative). Additionally it is also part of AUKUS, a trilateral security agreement between Australia, the United Kingdom, and the United States. Diplomatic ties with local powers such as Japan and Korea are also quite good. Australia and Japan have Reciprocal Access Agreement (e.g. basing rights).

While Australia does not possess a carrier group it does possess remarkable naval capabilities for its size: several diesel-powered attack submarines, two helicopter carriers as well as about a dozen destroyers and frigates.

For air power Australia operates modern fighter aircraft such as the F-35 Lightning and is particularly useful in anti-submarine warfare and maritime patrol: Australia's P-8 Poseidon maritime patrol aircraft and Australia's MH60R Seahawk and MRH-90 helicopters.

Finally, while the intrinsically naval/amphibious nature of a conflict limits the applicability of most conventional ground forces, some specific units are well-adapted to these environments. Special forces including Australia's Special Air Service Regiment can be used for infiltration, sabotage, and battlefield intelligence collection.

Strategic Objectives

Australia must aim to prevent the collapse of Taiwan; economically, politically, but most importantly, militarily. Democracy must be defended, and the Chinese defeated. Never again should Taiwan be allowed to come under threat.

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