

Peter Jennings

Executive Director, Australian Strategic Policy Institute (ASPI)



Peter Jennings is the executive director of the Australian Strategic Policy Institute (ASPI) a position he has held since May 2012. Peter has worked at senior levels in the Australian Public Service on defense and national security. Career highlights include being Deputy Secretary for Strategy in the Defence Department (2009-12); Chief of Staff to the Minister for Defence (1996-98) and Senior Adviser for Strategic Policy to the Prime Minister (2002-03).

Peter's research interests include Australian and regional defense policies, military operations, crisis management, government decision making and future defense capabilities. Peter has previously held a number Senior Executive Service positions in Defence including First Assistant Secretary International Policy Division and First Assistant Secretary Coordination and Public Affairs. Peter was Director of Programs at ASPI between late 2003 and January 2006 and has taught postgraduate studies on terrorism at the Australian Defence Force Academy (ADFA).

In the Defence Department, Peter has been the Deputy Director of the then titled Defence Imagery and Geospatial Organisation (2002) and head of the Strategic Policy Branch (1998–1999). In late 1999 Peter was co-director of the East Timor Policy Unit, responsible for developing Australia's policy approaches to the international peacekeeping operation in East Timor.

Peter studied at the London Business School in 2000–2001 as a Sloan Fellow and was awarded a Masters of Science (Management) with Distinction. He has a Master of Arts Degree in International Relations from the Australian National University (1987) and a BA (Honours) in History from the University of Tasmania (1980–1984). He has been a Fulbright Fellow at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (1985).

Mr. Jennings has not previously testified before the Commission.