

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910480630903321
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Titolo	The Indo-Pacific and Its Strategic Challenges : An Australian Perspective // Peter Varghese
Pubbl/distr/stampa	Singapore : , : ISEAS Publishing, , [2019] ©2019
ISBN	981-4843-51-2
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (13 pages)
Collana	Trends in Southeast Asia, , 0219-3213 ; ; 2019, no. 4
Disciplina	327.5
Soggetti	Geopolitics - India Geopolitics - Indo-Pacific Region Electronic books. Australia Foreign relations Indo-Pacific Region Indo-Pacific Region Foreign relations Australia
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Note generali	Title from publisher's bibliographic system (viewed on 27 Jan 2020).
Nota di contenuto	Front matter -- Foreword -- The Indo-Pacific and Its Strategic Challenges: An Australian Perspective -- The Indo-Pacific and Its Strategic Challenges: An Australian Perspective
Sommario/riassunto	The shift in the framework of Australia's strategic thinking from the Asia-Pacific to the Indo-Pacific reflects the primary focus on the maritime environment in the coming decades and the expectation that over time India will become more embedded in the strategic dynamics of the Asia-Pacific. India is in the midst of a major geopolitical repositioning, as it pursues a hard-headed national interests-based policy and builds stronger strategic ties with a wide range of countries including the United States and its allies in the region. The region is entering a potentially dangerous phase in U.S.-China relations. China's rise needs to be managed not frustrated; balanced not contained. Constructing that balance and anchoring China in a new multi-polar strategic equilibrium in the Indo-Pacific is the big challenge of our time. More and more individual Southeast Asian countries are being pulled into China's orbit: not with enthusiasm or conviction but because they see that the economic cost of opposing China's agenda is

too high. The United States is so far doing little to change this.

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