

Emily Hitchman

Sir Roland Wilson scholar

Department of Home Affairs

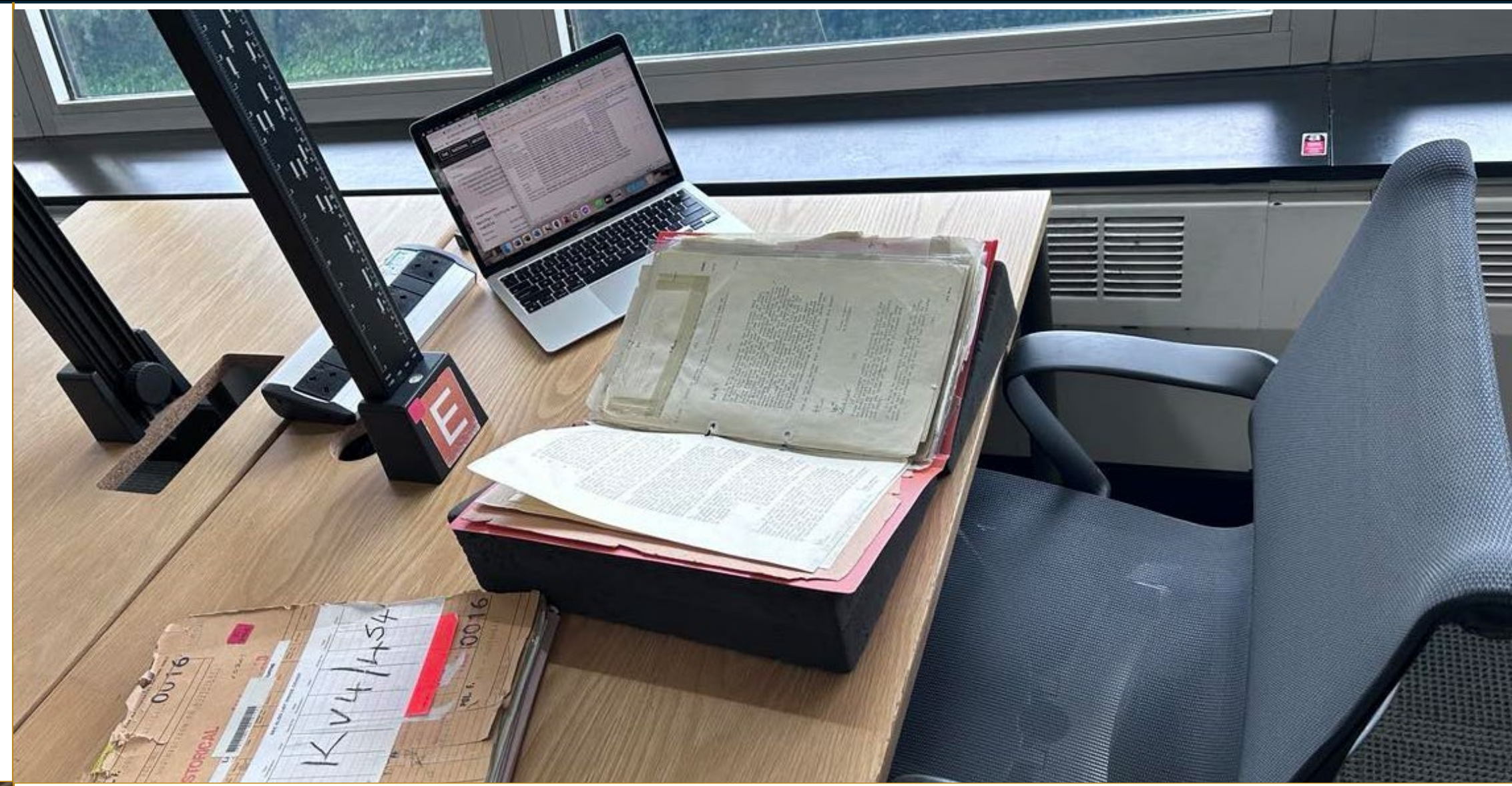
Neither Confirm Nor Deny: National Security Secrecy and Australia's Liberal Democracy

The Australian National University



Research questions

1. Has Australian governments' use of NCND **evolved** over time? How and why?
2. Has Australian governments' use of NCND historically been politically **partisan**?
3. What role has NCND played in Australian **liberal democratic governance** historically?



Preliminary findings

1. Australian governments' use of NCND has **consistently evolved** to meet changing environments
2. Historically, NCND has increasingly **facilitated bipartisanship** on national security
3. NCND has played an **integral role** in Australian liberal democratic governance

Benefits and future impact

- **Historically-informed analysis** of the role of national security secrecy within liberal democratic governance
- Identification of precedent for the **use and adaptation** of NCND
- Principled foundation for the **navigation** of national security secrecy in contemporary security environment

In five years

- Contribute research findings to reform across **national security policy** space
- Grow **links and pathways** between public and academic sectors
- Promote and support the capacity for **evidence-based policymaking** across the APS



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