



The Royal United Services Institute of Victoria

Promoting National Security and Defence since 1890

A constituent body of The Royal United Services Institute for Defence and Security
Studies of Australia

Patron: The Honourable Linda Dessau AC
Governor of Victoria

President: Major General (Retd) Michael O'Brien CSC

Secretary: Lieutenant Colonel (Retd) Bob Hart RFD

The RUSIV Prize Essay – Australian Defence Ethics

The Royal United Services Institute of Victoria (RUSIV) is announcing an annual endowed essay competition for individual Australian citizens on the topic of Australian Defence Ethics.

At a time when many perceive that ethical standards are altering and technological changes are providing unforeseen ethical challenges, it is singularly important for the Australian Defence Force to have a strong ethical underpinning. The purpose of this prize essay is to provide strong support to the development of this ethics framework.

The prize of \$A2000 will be offered for the first time in 2021.

The topic set for 2021 is:

“How can the challenges to the Australian Defence Force’s ethical framework be met?”

Original essays of not more than 10,000 words (exclusive of footnotes) are to be submitted in a single pdf file (accompanied by a Microsoft Word file) to the Secretary of RUSIV (secretary@rusiv.org.au) by 1600 hours AEST on 30th November 2021. There is no entry fee.

The style of the essay is to follow that of the *Australian Defence Force Journal*¹. Essays must be the original work of their individual authors. Copyright in the essays will remain with their authors, though it is expected that the winning entry will be available for publication. A copy of each essay submitted will be held by the Library of RUSIV.

The Library of the Royal United Services Institute of Victoria’s considerable collection relating to military ethics is available to assist entrants.

Judging of the essay will be based on criteria including readability, breadth, importance, accessibility and relevance. The decision reached by the independent judging panel will be final. All authors will be notified of the judges’ decision within two months of the submission deadline. RUSIV reserves the right not to consider entries which do not comply with requirements and the right not to make an award if no suitable candidate applies.

¹ Available at <https://defence.gov.au/adf/Adf/Submissions.asp>