The scope for detailed public discussion, dissection, and debate concerning individual operational incidents involving killing, destruction and detention — to name only the currently most topical issues — has radically expanded in the last decade. Driven by the ubiquitous availability and increasing speed of information technology and exchange, the evolution and expansion of applicable law and increased avenues for scrutiny, greater political and public sensitivity, and the maturing capabilities of non-State investigators and assessors of conduct — such as NGO’s — the investigation of operational incidents now often takes place in a highly contested, contestable, and public dialogue space.

This conference will examine the investigation of operational incidents from a multi-disciplinary perspective, focussing on themes, mechanisms, and case studies via a combination of law, political science, and history.

The conference is intentionally eclectic, drawing upon important precedents such as Northern Ireland and Somalia, recent case studies from Afghanistan and Iraq, thematic issues such as investigative frameworks and transparency, and non-State perspectives on issues associated with investigating operational incidents.

The conference will be of interest to: individuals from military, international organisation, and NGO backgrounds who work within use of force and accountability contexts; policy and legal advisers; and academics and students who work/study in the area of legal and political controls on use of force, and operational consequence management.
Speakers include

> Colonel Kirby Abbott  
  Canadian Forces, Assistant Legal Advisory NATO Military HQ
> Prof Michael N Schmitt  
  US Naval War College
> RADM James Goldrick AM CSC  
  Royal Australian Navy
> Dr David Blaazer  
  UNSW Canberra
> Dr Ian Henderson  
  University of Melbourne
> A/Prof Clinton Fernandes  
  UNSW Canberra
> Dr Rachel Kerr  
  Kings College, London
> Brigadier-General Tom Ayres  
  US Army JAG School
> Prof Tim McCormack  
  University of Melbourne
> Dr Annemarie Devereaux  
  The Australian National University
> Mr Larry Maybee  
  ICRC Regional Delegate to the Armed and Security Forces, Malaysia
> A/Prof Bruce Oswald  
  University of Melbourne
> Dr Rain Liivoja  
  University of Melbourne
> A/Prof Rob McLaughlin  
  The Australian National University
> Prof David Lovell  
  UNSW Canberra
> Mr David McLure  
  Sydney Bar
> Prof Clive Williams MG  
  The Australian National University
> A/Prof Dale Stephens  
  University of Adelaide

Registration

> $250 Early-bird Registration  
  (by 31 July 2012)
> $325 Registration  
  (after 31 July 2012)
> $200 1-day Registration
> $120 Full-time Student/Concession Registration

Enquiries

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More information about the conference and Canberra accommodation options are available at the conference web-site: