



ARE WESTERN DEMOCRACIES

VULNERABLE TO CYBER MANIPULATION

AND INFORMATION ASSAULTS?

Guest Speaker:

Dr Cathy Downes

joined the Victoria University of for Strategic Studies in July 2018

Dr Cathy Downes Wellington's Centre

after serving fifteen years as Professor of Strategy and Policy in the Washington D.C. – based U.S National Defense University's College of Information and Cyberspace. Her research and teachings focus on security and defence studies within cyberspace – strategic leadership and thinking, disruptive innovation and emerging technologies, and inter-agency collaboration in national security and disaster preparedness.

Dr Cathy Downes holds a PhD in International Relations and Strategic Studies from the United Kingdom's University of Lancaster. She has held research fellowships at Harvard University's Centre for International Affairs, University of Melbourne and Australian National University's Strategic and Defence Studies Centre. She then (in 1990) joined the New Zealand Defence Force, serving on the NZDF's civil staff culminating as a senior executive working for successive Chiefs of the Defence Force on strategic and enterprise-level leadership, defence policy and management projects.

For a stimulating talk and question and answer session, Dr Cathy Downes will present on: Date/Time: Thursday, 28 September 2023 at 8.00 pm – with tea and coffee from 7.30 pm Venue: Rosewood, 417 Queen Street, Masterton Non-members: \$5.00 door charge All are welcome

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