

Independence in (US) Alliance. In the 1990s, this goal has been retained as Australia reformulates the globalist stances it advanced during the Cold War in favour of an enhanced focus on cooperative security via regional integration, the power of market forces, and the persuasive influences of Westernised epistemic communities.

In Governmental terms the 1980s and 1990s has seen a period of policy dynamism unmatched in Australia's otherwise cautious and 'frightened' political history.⁴¹ In particular during the Hawke and Keating ALP governments, between 1983 and 1996, the new synthetic approach was most evident in Australian enthusiasm for the APEC grouping, and in increasing mainstream support for a new security agenda based less on traditional (e.g. deterrence) premises but on trade-based processes and the liberalisation of regional and global relations. This is where Evans, as Foreign Minister in the Keating Government made, an important contribution to the policy debate. More specifically, and to his credit, Evans now acknowledged that if a genuine shift was to occur in Australian policy practice a shift was necessary also in the mind-sets of the Australian IR community. Consequently, the issue of old-mind sets is very much to the fore in Evan's Cooperating for Peace (1995). Indeed, the criteria he establishes for producing a mature, independent Australian foreign policy for the future rests on the attempt to construct a "new [liberal-realist] mind-set in the conduct of international relations ...one which endeavours to move beyond [orthodox] power politics".⁴²

The problem with this endeavour is not its intent but the theoretical unselfconsciousness at its (Westphalian) core. Accordingly, in the attempt to change traditional mind sets Evans replicates a traditional mind-setting strategy in framing the issue of 'international relations' in precisely the same (positivist) terms as the power politics perspective it seeks to overcome. Consequently, the basic question addressed by Evan's new Australian approach to the world in the 1990s is: "what should be the response of the international community to the international security problems of the world as we now find it in the 1990s."⁴³

At first glance this appears a rather unremarkable expression of a concern shared by all in a volatile era, but it actually represents a traditional way of closing off debate rather than a genuine attempt to open it. This is because the basic question asked by Evans is already framed in such a way as to effectively disqualify certain ways of

⁴¹For a view of Australia as the 'frightened' country see the aptly titled The Frightened Country by A. Renouf (Melbourne: Macmillan, 1979)

⁴²See Evans, Cooperating For Peace, op. cit. 1993 p. 58

⁴³Ibid. 1993 p. 3