

Eileen Whitehead

The AUKUS pact endangers Australian independence in the Asia Pacific region and is a qualitative shift in our position in the region. The decision to form AUKUS pact and purchase nuclear subs presents ramifications for Australian sovereignty – nuclear proliferation – and generations long implications for Australia. This is an indication of US global hegemony which alters our relationship with our neighbours and makes

I'm particularly concerned about Australia becoming another US military base. We already have Pine Gap, Geraldton and Exmouth, with US troops already on Australian soil in Darwin. And we have no legal jurisdiction over US military on our soil, which is very concerning. This new Cold War being conducted against China is extremely dangerous. I also object to the huge costs involved in buying nuclear submarines: it's almost 4% of our GDP which could be better spent supporting our health services, particularly during this pandemic.