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## **'THE THUCYDIDES TRAP' BECOMNES THE ASIA-PACIFIC THEME SONG**

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ASPI (5 December 2023)

Graeme Dobell

Thucydides trap: from the Greek historians statement that the alarm of the established power at the challenge of the rising power makes war inevitable.

The Asia-Pacific ponders the growing chances of war.

Australias policy community shares the regions unhappy understanding that nations can sleep-walk into war, even when rational, objective self-interest on all sides cries out against it. That nightmare scenario is described by Gareth Evans in the Australian chapter of the CSCAP Regional Security Outlook 2024, produced by the Council for Security Cooperation in the Asia-Pacific.

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