



Nisha Lad
Director, Countering Foreign Interference, National Security Branch
Department of Education

Nisha's responsibilities within the federal Department of Education (International Division) cover a broad range of national security matters that safeguard Australia's world class international education offering and high quality research. Her team is focussed on engaging with the higher education sector and representing across Government to encourage proportionate and ongoing risk mitigations to counter foreign interference.

Nisha began her career working at the Australian Department of Defence and then joined the Department of Infrastructure and Transport, where her responsibilities included aviation security policy and program development activities in South East Asia. Nisha joined the Civil Aviation Safety Authority (CASA) in 2010 and spent over a decade leading the International Relations function for the organisation. This included overseeing the negotiation of bilateral agreements with international counterparts, CASA's international capacity building and strategic engagement at multilateral forums. During her time at CASA, Nisha also had oversight of the Government Relations function and held the role of Chief of Staff to the CASA Chief Executive Officer.

Nisha holds a Bachelor of Commerce/Bachelor of Arts degree from the Australian National University and holds a Diploma in Project Management.