

## Dr. N.A.J. Taylor

### Biographical note

N.A.J. Taylor was born in Kleve, Germany, in 1980, and educated at the University of Sydney and the University of Queensland. Taylor currently teaches across the broad interdisciplinary field of the Environmental Humanities at The University of Melbourne. He has held honorary and visiting appointments at Bard College, Sciences Po, Linköping University, La Trobe University, Roskilde University, Whitman College, and The New School, where he was an Australia Awards fellow.

He has published two books, *Athens Dialogue on a Middle East Zone Free of Nuclear and Other Weapons of Mass Destruction as well as their Means of Delivery* (European Public Law Organisation, 2013) and *Reimagining Hiroshima and Nagasaki: Nuclear Humanities in the post-Cold War* (Routledge, 2017), as well as three special issues, “Re-imagining Hiroshima” (*Critical Military Studies*, 2015), “Internal Relations” (*Borderlands*, 2017), and “Reimagining Maralinga” (*Unlikely: Journal for Creative Arts*, 2018). He has also published more than twenty journal articles and book chapters, as well as dozens of other scholarly contributions, including keynote lectures, delivered papers, submissions to government and exhibitions.

Taylor has been a researcher at the Environmental Humanities Collaboratory at Linköping University, as well as either an active or honorary researcher in the humanities and social sciences at La Trobe University since 2015 and 2009, respectively. He actively serves on the boards of the Consequences of Radiation Exposure Museum, Pace University’s Centre for the Arts, Society & Ecology, and the Archive of Nuclear Harm, which he also directs. He also sits on the editorial boards of *Global Change, Peace & Security* and the *Journal of Sustainable Finance & Investment*.

His current and completed projects are situated in the Nuclear Humanities, with a sustained interest in both philosophical and creative approaches to the problem of nuclear harm. Taylor’s nuclear philosophy is characterised by an Antipodean stance, which necessitates rejecting human chauvinism and employing local means to global ends. Philosophical works in development under contract include the sole-authored book, *Antipodean Nuclear Politics* (Palgrave Macmillan), in which he performs an alternative history of Oceanic denuclearisation. Meanwhile, Taylor’s creative activity addresses the task of communicating the problem of nuclear harm into the far-future. Creative works in development under advanced contract include the co-authored book, *Storytelling the Anthropocene* (Routledge), in which he revises the statist and anthropocentric scholarship of International Relations with Stefanie Fishel.

His projects have drawn over \$250,000 of external sponsorship from the Australian Commonwealth Government, United Kingdom Foreign & Commonwealth Office, European Public Law Organisation, Institute for Human Security and Social Change, International Physicians for the Prevention of Nuclear War, Australia Council for the Arts, among others. Former vice-president of the International Court of Justice Judge Christopher Weeramantry wrote that the Athens Dialogue that he co-convened in 2012 was “outstanding” and “a significant step” that makes “a substantial contribution” to our understanding of the constraints and opportunities for comprehensive nuclear disarmament and nonproliferation.

He has previously served on several non-governmental expert and advisory groupings, including as a founding member of the UN Global Compact Expert Group on Responsible Business and Investment in Conflict-Affected and High-Risk Areas. Prior to 2012, Taylor spent a decade advising pension and sovereign wealth funds on ethical practices relating to transboundary environmental and social harm. In 2007 UniSuper awarded him Australasia’s inaugural prize for ethical investment research where the panel of judges noted Taylor’s “pioneering role” which “may have single-handedly debunked any residual concerns [...] and could fundamentally change how [legislators and trustees] now tackle this subject”.

Taylor’s passion for public engagement and the reading public has seen his essays and reviews published and syndicated by over 50 outlets, most recently as a frequent contributor to the *ABC*, *Al Jazeera English*, *The Conversation*, *The Guardian*, and *openDemocracy*. He has appeared as an invited guest on the *ABC*, *Al Jazeera*, *BBC World Service*, *Huffington Post Live*, *SBS*, among others.

As a teacher, his goal is to give rise to a love of learning that may transcend the classroom. For this, he uses active, discovery, and experiential learning combined with iterative and circular (i.e. from self, peer and teacher) reflection and feedback. He has found over the last decade that enabling students to locate and harness their personal interests and passions is the best way to produce lasting learning outcomes.