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- **What outlook does the ABC have with respect to its Asia Pacific news and information services in light of these changes?**

The US cuts amplify the need for Australia to step up its international media activity across the Asia Pacific and the ABC's vital role in achieving this. We must be able to offer audiences across the region access to independent, impartial news and current affairs covering issues that are important to them. This is essential to counter narratives coming from illiberal states which seek to undermine democratic ideals and the rule of law.

I wrote about this challenge in the Australian Strategic Policy Institute's The Strategist published in mid-April. This piece provides an up-to-date summation of our position and our pitch to Government: <https://www.aspistrategist.org.au/to-counter-anti-democratic-propaganda-step-up-funding-for-abc-international/>

- **Has the ABC discussed these events with the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade? If so, what is the nature of these conversations?**

We're in ongoing discussions with DFAT and DITRDCA regarding the information environment across the region and the key role played by the ABC. We want to expand our capacity to champion local independent public interest media, provide value to regional audiences and assist in filling their information needs.

- **Will the ABC be seeking additional government support to fill the vacuum**

As stated above, the ABC has ongoing discussions with Government about the role we play now and could play into the future with additional funding for our Asia Pacific services.