



DEFENCE

MEDIA RELEASE

INDO-PACIFIC ENDEAVOUR BACK IN MALAYSIA

Kota Kinabalu, 1 October 2024 – Australia’s flagship regional engagement activity, Indo-Pacific Endeavour (IPE), returns to Malaysia with the arrival of HMAS *Sydney* in Kota Kinabalu.

This is the Australian Defence Force’s inaugural visit to Kota Kinabalu under IPE.

IPE 2024 in Malaysia will run from 1–11 October 2024, and will serve as a platform for Australia and Malaysia to further strengthen their friendship and understanding as longstanding partners in defence.

Under this bilateral engagement, IPE 2024 will conduct a series of engagement activities with Malaysian Armed Forces, which will provide opportunities for both countries to share experiences and exchange views.

Key IPE 2024 engagements and activities in Malaysia include:

- A forum on international humanitarian and cyber law
- Faith-based and sporting engagements, including friendly badminton matches
- HMAS *Sydney*’s activities at sea with the Royal Malaysian Navy

IPE is an annual program that supports the Australian Government’s commitment on deepening diplomatic and defence partnerships across Southeast Asia and the Northeast Indian Ocean, and reinforces Australia’s commitment to a peaceful, stable and prosperous region, underpinned by respect for sovereignty and adherence to agreed rules and norms.

Quotes attributable to Her Excellency Danielle Heinecke, Australian High Commissioner to Malaysia

“The IPE 2024 program in Malaysia is an opportunity to build on our strong and longstanding defence and security cooperation, an important pillar of our bilateral relationship.”

“Malaysia is an important friend and partner to Australia and our close partnership is a testament to the strength of our deep people-to-people connections, common interests, and shared history.”

“We look forward to celebrating and deepening our links during next year’s 70th anniversary of Australia’s diplomatic presence in Malaysia.”

Quotes attributable to Commodore Michael Harris, Commander IPE24

“Malaysia is one of Australia’s closest and longstanding defence partners.”

“IPE 2024 allows Australia and Malaysia to work together closely in ways that are of, with and for the region.”

“During IPE 2024, we will be engaging, training and learning from each other around maritime security and cyber operations to build the security of the Indo-Pacific region.”

“We will also be broadening our friendship and understanding through faith-based and sporting engagements, with our Australian Defence Force Badminton team visiting.”

“Australia values its strong defence and people-to-people links with Malaysia.”

“We look forward to deepening our cooperation through IPE 2024 to help maintain a peaceful, secure and prosperous Indo-Pacific region for all.”

Media note

Media can access imagery and video at: <https://images.defence.gov.au/S20242015>

Information about HMAS *Sydney* is available at:

<https://www.navy.gov.au/capabilities/ships-boats-and-submarines/hmas-sydney>