



REPORT

2016 Lowy Institute polling:  
Majority of Australians favour a  
local build for next-generation  
submarines

April 2016

**LOWY INSTITUTE**  
FOR INTERNATIONAL POLICY

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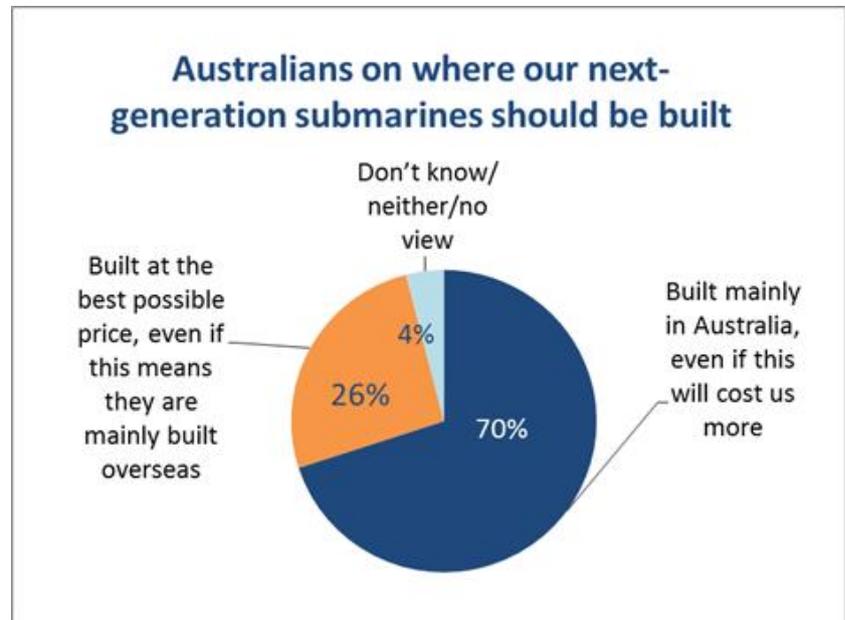
- produce distinctive research and fresh policy options for Australia's international policy and to contribute to the wider international debate
- promote discussion of Australia's role in the world by providing an accessible and high-quality forum for discussion of Australian international relations through debates, seminars, lectures, dialogues and conferences.

## 2016 LOWY INSTITUTE POLLING: MAJORITY OF AUSTRALIANS FAVOUR A LOCAL BUILD FOR NEXT-GENERATION SUBMARINES

Australians have strong views on where Australia's next submarines should be built, with the latest Lowy Institute polling finding that 70% of Australian adults want the submarines 'built mainly in Australia, even if this will cost us more'.

Only 26% say 'the submarines should be built at the best possible price, even if this means they are mainly built overseas'.

The site of the submarine construction project has been a topic of considerable public and political debate, with pressure to involve Australian shipbuilders and labour to stimulate the domestic economy and provide jobs.



## POLL QUESTION AND RESULTS

*This result is drawn from the forthcoming 2016 Lowy Institute Poll, which will be released in full in June 2016. The Lowy Institute Poll is based on a nationally representative telephone survey of 1202 Australian adults conducted by market research company Fieldworks between 26 February and 15 March 2016. The Poll's error margin is approximately +/- 2.8%.*

**Table 1:** 'And now about Australia's proposed purchase of new submarines. Companies in France, Germany and Japan are in a competitive tender to build Australia's next generation of submarines. Which statement comes closest to your personal view: the submarines should be built mainly in Australia, even if this will cost us more ... [or] ... the submarines should be built at the best possible price, even if this means they are mainly built overseas?'

	2016
The submarines should be built mainly in Australia, even if this will cost us more	70%
The submarines should be built at the best possible price, even if this means they are mainly built overseas	26%
Don't know/neither/no view	4%

**LOWY INSTITUTE**  
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Level 3, 1 Bligh Street  
Sydney NSW 2000 Australia

Tel: +61 2 8238 9000  
Fax: +61 2 8238 9005

[www.lowyinstitute.org](http://www.lowyinstitute.org)  
twitter: @lowyinstitute