



DR YASMIN HASSEN

Community Engagement Lead, OSECI

Dr Yasmin Hassen is a strategic public policy leader and scholar-practitioner specialising in national security, foreign policy, and the intersection of counter-terrorism and social cohesion. She holds a PhD in National Security Policy from the Australian National University. Her research examined the securitisation of foreign aid and its implications for governance, development, and political subjectivity in the Horn of Africa. Her doctoral work interrogates how counter-terrorism frameworks reshape state–society relations, constrain civic space, and produce new forms of political identity and resistance.

Yasmin’s professional practice bridges this intellectual foundation with applied policy leadership. Her work sits at the intersection of security policy, social cohesion, and human rights, with a particular focus on how state responses to terrorism reshape civic space, community trust, and political participation. Drawing on extensive experience across government, academia, and the for-purpose sector, she brings a rare practitioner–scholar perspective to contemporary national security debates.

She currently serves as the Community Engagement Lead with the Office of the Special Envoy to Combat Islamophobia (OSECI), where she leads national community engagement and strategic policy. Her work is grounded in rigorous research and direct community insight, positioning her as a bridge between communities and decision makers. At a time when Australia’s national security discourse is expanding beyond traditional defence paradigms, OSECI’s work foregrounds the centrality of communities in shaping resilient, inclusive security outcomes.