MIDDLE POWER STATECRAFT:
INDONESIA AND MALAYSIA

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This thesis establishes a unifying theory for the concept of middle power (MP). MPs are found to be states which have an innate form of statecraft and perceived power (PP) as a result of their size. This statecraft and PP is shaped by the process of hybridisation, a behaviour which is common to all MPs, and, this thesis argues, is in fact necessary for the continuing existence of a MP. Hybridisation theory is presented as a basis for analysis, policy development and prediction of MP statecraft and PP. A prerequisite to the founding of hybridisation theory is the new statistical method of definition that this thesis creates. Sixteen MPs of Asia and the Pacific are identified by this new method of definition.

Indonesia and Malaysia are employed to explore precursory MP statecraft and PP. These two MPs are also the primary subjects of a consideration of the domestic, international, tools and practitioner aspects of statecraft. The other MPs identified by the statistical method of definition are discussed in relation to Indonesia, Malaysia and issues and events of the twentieth century which provide examples of MP statecraft and PP. This comparative facet of the thesis informs and tests hybridisation theory, as well as providing a historical analysis of Southeast Asia from a statecraft and PP perspective. The focii of international relations and international political economy are thus provided with a theory which can be applied to the practical study of all middle-sized states. Middle-sized states can use the same theory to enhance their own ability to (re)create their state.