



Foreign Affairs Policy

National understands that on the global stage we act on behalf of New Zealanders. Everything we do on the world stage must reflect their interests and values. Using the tools of diplomacy to advance democracy, protect human rights, and promote inclusiveness around the world, National is committed to enhancing New Zealand's hard won reputation as an honest broker and considered voice.

National's foreign policy is based on five interlocking principles. New Zealand foreign policy under National will be:

- Outward focused to deliver New Zealand security and prosperity
- Independent and agile in advancing our interests
- Credible positioning of New Zealand as a serious partner
- Values based and underpinned by our commitment to democracy and freedom
- Bipartisan and reaching out to engage all New Zealanders.

Standing up for New Zealand's values

New Zealand is a small country that wields influence beyond its size. Our opinion is respected and trusted internationally and for a modest country our voice is persuasive. It is our duty to advance New Zealand's national interests as a responsible member of the international community and to defend the values that we hold on to.

Over recent years, there have been many examples of aggressive and violent actions by state and non-state actors around the world. New Zealand must uphold our values in confronting such aggression.

The National Government introduced the Autonomous Sanctions Bill to Parliament. This Bill would empower New Zealand to impose

sanctions on countries where we believe they are warranted and outside of the 'held hostage' United Nations sanctions regime. This authority should be used sparingly, but is an important tool in New Zealand's fight against aggression and in support of democracy, human rights and fundamental freedoms.

National will:

- Introduce and pass the Autonomous Sanctions Bill to allow New Zealand to sanction countries outside of the United Nations regime.

Deepening our international relationships

National is committed to a confident and outward looking New Zealand. We will stand up for our values on the world stage and seek to build on the strong relationships we have with our friends and partners across the world.

As a small trading nation in the Pacific, New Zealand must be outward focused and work across the world to advance the values and trading interests that benefit all New Zealanders. To do this we need to build on the strong bi-lateral and multi-lateral relationships we already have and seize new opportunities to advance the interests of New Zealanders across the world.

National will:

- Seek further opportunities to build on our shared values and interests with our sibling and ally, Australia.
- Continue building on our strong relationships and development commitments in the Pacific.
- Seek new opportunities for cooperation with our friends in the Association of South East Asian Nations (ASEAN).
- Work to seize opportunities to advance New Zealand's values, interests and trading relationships with the United States, China,



India, and the EU and post-Brexit United Kingdom.

Supporting international development

New Zealand, like most developed countries, has taken on responsibilities to deliver development assistance to countries that need support. We do this through Official Development Assistance (ODA)

Pacific countries are rightly the largest recipient of New Zealand's ODA. Over the 2015-2018 period, New Zealand contributed 59 per cent of our ODA to the Pacific.

New Zealand must continue to strive towards meeting our international development commitments by focusing on investing our efforts where we can make the biggest difference

National will:

- Continue investing in Overseas Development Assistance programmes in the Pacific and across the world.
- Investigate more opportunities for New Zealand companies and organisations to deliver overseas development assistance work.