



Trade Policy

As a trading nation National is unashamedly supportive of free trade. Trade supports 600,000 jobs across the country and is responsible for delivering a higher standard of living and a better quality of life for New Zealand. National is committed to an aggressive pursuit of new trade opportunities for New Zealand businesses.

Boosting trade

National will continue its record of showing leadership internationally and domestically on trade policy, seeking new free trade agreements, and improving market access for New Zealanders.

Our consistent and honest voice in the international trading system, and aggressive pursuit of trade opportunities for New Zealand businesses, have opened doors for New Zealanders and helped ensure our economy remains strong.

National will:

- Commit to an ambitious trade agenda to find new markets in every corner of the globe for New Zealand.
- Continue and work to complete negotiations with:
 - Concluding agreements with: the United Kingdom, the European Union, the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership countries, Pacific Alliance (Chile, Colombia, Mexico and Peru), and the ASEAN Free Trade Agreement upgrade.
- Pursue opportunities for new free trade agreements including:
 - Seeking a Free Trade Agreement with the United States of America.
 - Continuing work to secure trade opportunities with India.

- Exploring opportunities with Mercosur countries (Argentina, Brazil, Paraguay and Uruguay), Nigeria, South Africa and Indonesia.

Showing Public Leadership

Trade deals are good for New Zealand, they level the playing field in our favour, create jobs, lower costs and allow our businesses to remain competitive and productive. But it is important for the public to know what it is that they are being signed up to.

Greater public oversight and debate on the importance of trade will build greater confidence in these benefits.

National will:

- Provide for more opportunities for public consultation on trade deals including regular trade road shows similar to the Trans-Pacific Partnership consultation process.
- Ensure trade deals are referred to a Parliamentary Select Committee to review the benefits and encourage further public consultation.
- Ensuring Parliamentary debates on trade deals prior to them coming into force.
- Support reform at the World Trade Organisation to ensure the viability of the global rules based system.