NEW ZEALAND
Candidate for the United Nations Security Council 2015–16
INTEGRITY › INDEPENDENCE › INNOVATION
Wind turbine, Wellington

Cow on rotary platform during milking

Solar powered orchard picking platform

Autumn vineyard, Marlborough

Auckland is the largest Pacific city in the world

Geothermal power station near Taupo
From New Zealand’s Prime Minister

Tēnā koutou, tēnā koutou, tēnā koutou katoa.
Greetings to one and all.

New Zealand, as part of the Western Europe and Others Group, is seeking a non-permanent seat on the United Nations Security Council for the term 2015–2016. If elected to the Security Council, New Zealand will enhance the voice of small states and will bring our unique skills and experience to the table.

We are a small but smart country with practical expertise to share. Located in the Asia-Pacific, we focus on promoting global peace and security through practical contributions, including to sustainable development.

New Zealand has an independent foreign policy outlook that listens to and respects the views of other countries. We believe the UN needs to pay more attention to the interests of small states and emerging economies. We have a role to play in making this happen.

We look forward to your support.

Rt. Hon. John Key
New Zealand Defence Force officer in Tilomar, near the border of Timor-Leste and Indonesia
A vote for New Zealand

New Zealand will bring a fresh perspective to the Security Council, drawing on our multicultural, Asia-Pacific identity.

In 2015, it will be 21 years since New Zealand last served on the Security Council. New Zealand strongly believes membership must remain accessible for all states.

New Zealand has a consistent and independent foreign policy. New Zealand has a proven track record of working with partners from all regions to solve problems and achieve practical results.

New Zealand is committed to supporting sustainable economic, social and environmental development through sharing knowledge and expertise with others.

New Zealand supports peace and security initiatives, through the UN and within our region. We advocate for conflict prevention and understand the link between security and development.

New Zealand is committed to fairness at the UN and comes with an open mind. New Zealand will work to ensure that all states are heard and respected, regardless of size or allegiances.

New Zealand will advocate for small states, especially those that face emerging threats to peace and security.

New Zealand is committed to an inclusive, transparent and effective Security Council that delivers on its international peace and security responsibilities.

INTEGRITY › INDEPENDENCE › INNOVATION
New Zealand builds stability in Asia-Pacific and worldwide

Over the past 60 years, our service men and women have served in more than 40 peace-keeping operations in over 25 countries.

Our long-standing contribution to peace-keeping is complemented by our commitment to sustainable development through sharing our knowledge and expertise in areas such as agriculture, renewable energy, disaster risk management and skills development.

When conflict came to our region, New Zealand was a strong supporter of a regional solution, first in Bougainville and more recently in the Solomon Islands and Timor-Leste. In 1997, as a trusted partner, New Zealand was able to broker a peace agreement with leaders from Papua New Guinea and Bougainville.

In Timor-Leste, New Zealand Defence Force personnel were deployed to a multinational peacekeeping taskforce, mandated by the UN to address the security crisis.

For the next 13 years, New Zealand continued to contribute military, police and capacity building experts to subsequent UN peace support missions in Timor-Leste.

New Zealand continues to provide on-going bilateral support to assist Timor-Leste as the country builds on its national development strategy. Our support focuses on private sector investment, security and justice, and education and training.
New Zealand collaborates to get results

New Zealand shares the expertise we’ve developed in agriculture, renewable energy and disaster risk management both with our partners in Asia-Pacific and around the world.

In March 2013, New Zealand co-hosted the Pacific Energy Summit with the EU to harness international support for a high-priority development need in the Pacific region: clean, affordable and sustainable energy technologies. The Summit attracted all the major donors and 80 companies, and delivered $635 million in funding commitments.

New Zealand has also brokered an innovative triangular partnership with China and the Cook Islands to improve water supply in Rarotonga.

New Zealand has developed a unique solution to unemployment in the Pacific. Between 6,000 and 7,000 Recognised Seasonal Employer Workers arrive annually in New Zealand and earn around US$10,300 each season. The scheme is a joint-effort between New Zealand and Pacific/ASEAN governments, trade unions, employers and industry groups and provides income that Pacific and Asian workers can bring back to their communities.
New Zealand focuses on renewable energy as part of sustainable economic development in the Pacific region. Developed in partnership with New Zealand, this renewable energy project installed in Tokelau is set to lead the world in transitioning from dependence on fossil-fuels to renewable energy.
New Zealand stands up for small states

New Zealand worked alongside and strongly supported the small states of Africa, Latin America and the Caribbean in their efforts to get the UN to approve controls of the trade in small arms.

As a Security Council member in 1993–94, New Zealand led the way in making sure that small states in Africa, Asia, the Middle East and former Yugoslavia got a fair hearing in the Security Council.

New Zealand was instrumental in establishing the Pacific Islands Forum in 1971 to provide a collaborative regional organisation for the small states of our region.

New Zealand advocates for Small Island Developing States, chairing negotiations leading to the Mauritius Strategy on SIDS at Barbados +10 in 2005, and is supporting Samoa in preparing for the SIDS conference in September 2014.
New Zealand is fair-minded and focuses on the future

As a long-standing supporter of a two-state solution in the Middle East, New Zealand voted in favour of the resolution on the status of Palestine at the UN General Assembly in November 2012. New Zealand continues to call for direct negotiations between the parties.

As President of the UN Security Council in 1994, New Zealand advocated forceful action to stop the genocide in Rwanda. In response to the failure of the Security Council to act, New Zealand spearheaded efforts to establish the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda.

New Zealand wants the Security Council to better reflect geographic balance and geopolitical realities, and to be more transparent and responsive.

In December 2009, New Zealand launched the Global Research Alliance on Agricultural Greenhouse Gases, which supports international research on delivering more food without growing greenhouse gas emissions.

Under the Friends of Fossil Fuel Subsidy Reform, New Zealand has brought together a group of small and medium sized countries that support the reform of inefficient fossil fuel subsidies because of the potential this has for climate change mitigation and as a potential source of long-term climate change financing.
New Zealand is a committed multilateralist

New Zealand is a leader on arms control issues, including on nuclear disarmament, cluster munitions, land mines and conventional arms. New Zealand was among the first countries to sign the new Arms Trade Treaty.

New Zealand is a long-standing supporter of humanitarian mine clearance and the UN Mine Action Service. New Zealand has contributed to mine clearance operations in Angola, Mozambique, Iraq, Laos, Cambodia, Lebanon, and, most recently, the West Bank.

New Zealand has demonstrated its commitment and practical support for the UN by producing the UN Handbook since 1961. The UN Handbook is a valuable reference guide that helps all states navigate the UN system effectively.

New Zealand has been an active contributor to sustainable development discussions since fighting for the establishment of ECOSOC in 1954. We have made particularly significant contributions in areas such as oceans, SIDS, renewable energy and health.
New Zealand Defence Force staff in Timor-Leste attend a ceremony held in the nation’s capital to mark the International Day of United Nations Peacekeepers.

Photo courtesy of the ADF
Lake Tekapo

Young paddlers in a waka

Government buildings and gardens

New Zealand’s national rugby team, the All Blacks

Students perform a traditional dance
History and people

- Māori people arrived in New Zealand about 800 years ago, with European settlers following in the 1800s. The 20th century also saw significant migration from the Pacific and Asia.
- The Treaty of Waitangi, signed in 1840 by Māori chiefs and the British Crown, has guided New Zealand’s development as a nation, including our approach to redressing past wrongs.
- New Zealanders have always been comfortable breaking new ground. In 1893, New Zealand was the first country to give women the vote, and has also stood firm against nuclear testing and nuclear weapons.
- Today New Zealand is a country of 4.4 million people with a distinctive Asia-Pacific identity.

Governance

- New Zealand is a vibrant democracy with one of the world’s oldest national parliaments. A proportional representation electoral system ensures a diverse parliament in which indigenous people and other minorities are fairly represented.
- New Zealand seeks to resolve issues arising from its colonial past and ensures compensation and return of land by negotiation, rather than through imposed state outcomes.
- Individual freedom in New Zealand is guaranteed through the rule of law. New Zealand is recognised as one of the most corruption-free countries in the world.
- Key elements of our foreign policy are broadly supported by all of the major political parties so New Zealand’s approach remains consistent.

Economy

- New Zealand has an open, free trade economy that relies on exporting goods to diverse markets. In 2001, New Zealand was the first developed country to provide tariff-free access for all goods from least developed countries.
- As an innovative agricultural economy, New Zealand has successfully developed expertise and knowledge in renewable and efficient energy to promote the growth of economies in our Asia-Pacific region.
- New Zealand consistently ranks in the top three countries for ease of doing business.