

Global Affairs Policy

Vision

Aotearoa New Zealand takes independent, principled stances on the global stage to cooperatively uphold the rights and interests of all and our planet, now and in the future.

Values and Principles

Aotearoa New Zealand's work with other countries and overseas organisations must be consistent with the following values and principles:

- *Honour Te Tiriti o Waitangi*: Aotearoa New Zealand's global relations should uphold the articles of Te Tiriti and support all indigenous peoples and their global movements, including movements to return land dispossessed by colonisation.
- *Ecological Wisdom*: The global ecological foundations that sustain life must be urgently protected and restored and be at the heart of our relations with the rest of the world.
- *Social Responsibility*: Global equity and justice are foundations for the security, prosperity and resilience of all countries.
- *Appropriate Decision-Making*: In support of shared responsibility and respect, Aotearoa New Zealand should support international rule of law, and fair, impartial and transparent national and international institutions based in law, as key mechanisms to address global challenges.
- *Non-Violence*: Meaningful, rapid cooperation among all states and other international communities is required to peacefully and successfully resolve challenges that have their roots in global systems.
- *Complexity*: The interconnected nature of global challenges and their systemic causes requires a sustained, dynamic approach that includes overseas and international organisations.
- *Integrity*: Criticism of any foreign state or overseas organisation by Aotearoa New Zealand for violation of these principles should never be muted in the name of narrow economic or political interests, or historic affiliations.

Summary

The Green Party supports an international rules-based-order that protects and restores the environment, upholds fundamental human rights and international justice, and acts in unison in a responsible and non-violent manner to support peace globally.

Strategic Priorities

"We recognise:

- *The unprecedented scale and urgency of the ecological crises facing our nation and our planet.*
- *The large and growing scale of local and global inequalities and their role in the ecological crises we face."*

Actions in this policy that will help build global efforts to address global ecological and inequity crises include:

- Advocate for strengthened agreements managing the ecological health of the global commons, including high seas, air and globally significant ecological assets, including biodiversity. (1.1)
- Support rapid international phasing-out of practices and substances that threaten the ongoing viability of humanity and other species. (1.11)
- Support, as a States Party, Ecocide to be added as the fifth crime to the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court. (1.2)
- Recognise the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities and respective capabilities by working cooperatively, generously and respectfully with other countries to address global challenges, taking an enabling approach to support countries that have less capability to contribute to solving global problems. (3.1)
- Advocate for the development of an international agreement to protect the rights of unprotected groups, such as the Rainbow community. (2.4)
- Advocate for cancellation of unjust debt and unconditional debt relief measures to alleviate global inequality. (2.8)

Connected Policies

This policy is connected to our [Human Rights](#), [Immigration](#), and [Trade and Foreign Investment](#) Policies.

Policy Positions

1. Environmental Protection and Restoration

Issues

International cooperation and coordination is crucial if we are to tackle the myriad environmental challenges people and planet face in the 21st century. Solutions must be driven by multilateral engagement to ensure buy-in at global scale. Environmental protection must also encompass efforts to restore and enhance areas already depleted.

Actions

- 1.1. Advocate for strengthened agreements managing the ecological health of the global commons, including high seas, air and globally significant ecological assets, including biodiversity.
- 1.2. Support, as a States Party, Ecocide to be added as the fifth crime to the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court.
- 1.3. Advocate for all states to formally recognise the global ecological crises and refine their domestic policies accordingly, with a renewed focus on addressing the high per

capita ecological footprint and consumption of developed countries and the global production practices that support it.

- 1.4. Embed urgent climate action across all international agreements and institutions.
- 1.5. Provide leadership under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change to implement and strengthen the Paris Agreement and rapidly reduce our own greenhouse gas emissions (see our [Climate Change](#) Policy).
- 1.6. Support and financially contribute to international programmes that aim to stabilise our climate and protect and restore the health of land, freshwater and marine ecosystems, including tree planting programmes.
- 1.7. Support universal membership and implementation of the Biodiversity Convention and the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES).
- 1.8. Recognise the ecological foundations of mass displacement (e.g. climate change-related displacement), including that exacerbated by conflict, and facilitate cooperative approaches to address this (see our [Defence and Peacekeeping](#) and [Immigration](#) Policies).
- 1.9. Ensure that trade arrangements respect and promote ecological wellbeing (see our [Trade and Foreign Investment](#) Policy)
- 1.10. Advocate for the international protection of endangered marine species on the high seas including, advocating for the International Whaling Commission to become an international organisation with universal membership and a mandate focused on cetacean (whale and dolphin) conservation.
- 1.11. Support rapid international phasing-out of practices and substances that threaten the ongoing viability of humanity and other species, for example by unbalancing the nitrogen, carbon and water cycles, depleting the ozone layer, degrading natural ecosystems with high endemic biodiversity and/or endangered species, and destroying biological soil systems on large scales.
- 1.12. Raise awareness about the benefits of sustainable population levels and the positive social policies that have been shown to both help stabilise population levels and improve wellbeing.
- 1.13. Encourage and support a two-way sharing of ideas and successes for sustainable living between Aotearoa New Zealand and other countries and between our cities and towns and their 'twin cities' and 'twin villages' in other countries.
- 1.14. In relation to global environmental issues, support international efforts to promote access to information, public participation in decision-making and access to justice.

2. Equity, Justice and Human Rights

Issues

Implementation of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights must be the priority of all states participating in the international system. Commitment to international justice and equity must form the basis from which international institutions respond to global issues. International aid should not be used as a tool of coercive diplomacy.

Actions

A. Human Rights

- 2.1. Support the domestic implementation of all equity- and rights-based international agreements ratified or endorsed by Aotearoa New Zealand, such as the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.
- 2.2. Lead global action to remedy the injustices and human rights violations caused by climate change and other disruptions to global ecological systems by human activity.
- 2.3. Support climate action led by and centred around Indigenous leadership and global action that supports small island nations already experiencing climate catastrophe (see our [Tagata Moana](#) Policy).
- 2.4. Advocate for the development of international agreements to protect the rights of unprotected groups.
- 2.5. Promote the human rights of takatāpui and Rainbow people at national and international levels (see our [Rainbow](#) Policy).
- 2.6. Promote the doctrine of 'responsibility to protect'¹ in cases of state-sanctioned genocide or gross and systematic violations of human rights, having regard to the need to ensure that any UN-authorized intervention is designed exclusively to meet the needs of the victim population and that the decision to intervene does not reflect the primacy of any major power interests.
- 2.7. Oppose any counter-terrorism practice conducted in violation of human rights law, including the practices of extraordinary rendition, indefinite and arbitrary detention and collective punishment techniques (such as house demolition and land defilement) and insist that any terrorist suspects be subject to normal judicial process.

B. Global Wellbeing Economy

- 2.8. Ensure that trade agreements respect and promote the values and principles of this policy (see our [Trade and Foreign Investment](#) Policy).
- 2.9. Advocate for cancellation of unjust debt and unconditional debt relief measures to alleviate global inequality.
- 2.10. Investigate and support innovative ways of generating multilateral funding for multilateral programmes through, for example, charges on international flights and international currency transactions.
- 2.11. Support appropriate and ethical foreign investment, and specifically oppose unethical investments by Crown agencies (see our [Trade and Foreign Investment](#) Policy).

¹ *Responsibility to Protect*. The primary responsibility for the protection of citizens resides with national governments. But if they prove unable or unwilling to meet that responsibility and gross and systematic violations of human rights occur, responsibility for their protection falls to the international community, including the right to intervene with force.

C. Official Development Assistance (ODA)

- 2.12. Advocate for a rapidly increased budget for Aotearoa New Zealand's Official Development Assistance (ODA), in line with UN recommendations to reach 0.7% of Gross National Income.
- 2.13. Ensure that ODA approaches:
 - 2.13.1. Recognise best practice for reducing inequality- and poverty;
 - 2.13.2. Avoid increasing the risk of indebtedness;
 - 2.13.3. Prioritise programmes that have been proven to be successful, and test all quantifiable ODAs against international standards;
 - 2.13.4. Prioritise programmes that promote gender equality and those which support the education of girls and support sexual and reproductive health and rights, including heightened male responsibility;
 - 2.13.5. Prioritise programmes in the Pacific that encourage connections to Tagata Moana diaspora communities in Aotearoa New Zealand;
 - 2.13.6. Prioritise programmes that promote disability rights, such as those which support economic development, human rights and education; and
 - 2.13.7. Oppose conditional ODA, including that which is conditional upon trade initiatives that promote Aotearoa New Zealand's private sector.

D. The New Zealand Diaspora

- 2.14. Establish a government institution with responsibility for the Aotearoa New Zealand diaspora.
- 2.15. Establish a formal channel for overseas New Zealanders to directly communicate with the government on all issues relevant to them.
- 2.16. Provide adequate resources to allow diplomatic staff to act as advocates or provide support for New Zealand citizens in emergency situations.
- 2.17. Ensure that measures to address risks from current and future crises protect the rights of New Zealanders to return home and do not impose additional costs.
- 2.18. Ensure that demographic data collection for New Zealanders overseas gives an accurate understanding of our diaspora.
- 2.19. Affirm the rights of New Zealanders to access pathways to citizenship in other countries.
- 2.20. Hold New Zealanders accountable for any international crimes committed at home or overseas, while:
 - 2.20.1. Upholding the fundamental protections provided by international and Aotearoa New Zealand's criminal and human rights laws; and
 - 2.20.2. Ensuring prosecutions are not undertaken for partisan purposes.

3. Shared Responsibility and Respect

Issues

For the international system to function in a way that delivers genuine benefits to all, it must act collectively to support and promote the diverse needs of communities, while also advancing and

protecting the common interests of people everywhere. This requires respect for and implementation of measures to support self-determination, delivered by robust international institutions that act with legitimacy on behalf of humanity.

Actions

- 3.1. Recognise the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities and respective capabilities² by working cooperatively, generously and respectfully with other countries to address global challenges, taking an enabling approach to support countries that have less capability to contribute to solving global problems.
- 3.2. Work proactively with overseas and international organisations, including Indigenous peoples, civil society organisations and the private sector, to build a positive, collective response to global challenges.
- 3.3. Support the UN Agenda 2030 for Sustainable Development through the Sustainable Development Goals and their focus on universal peace, eradicating poverty, and human rights.
- 3.4. Support the right of all peoples to participate in political decision-making, encourage efforts to increase the political participation of women, disabled people, Indigenous peoples, LGBTQI+ and other marginalised communities, particularly in the Pacific, and advocate for the transparency and due process measures necessary to ensure that political decisions are made collectively.
- 3.5. Advocate for universal access to quality education for all children, and access to voluntary family planning services for all, as part of ethically stabilising humanity's population and mitigating our collective impact on the global environment.

A. International rule of law

- 3.6. Support universal compulsory jurisdiction of the International Court of Justice (ICJ), and universal membership of the International Criminal Court (ICC).
- 3.7. Support measures to ensure impartial enforcement of decisions made by the ICJ and ICC.
- 3.8. Oppose any attempt by states to de-legitimise international rule of law, and oppose any attempts to politicise the ICC.
- 3.9. Oppose malicious attempts by international actors to destabilise international peace and order through wanton disregard of international institutions and norms, which disproportionately affect small and vulnerable states, as well as ethnic, cultural and marginalised groups within states.
- 3.10. Advocate reform of the United Nations Security Council to support fair decision-making and transparent process.

²The *common but differentiated responsibilities* and respective capabilities principle acknowledges the contribution of historical and current inequality between countries to global problems. It acknowledges all states have a shared obligation to address environmental destruction but denies equal responsibility of all states with regard to environmental protection.

B. Self-determination

- 3.11. Promote the principle of self-determination of peoples as an essential step in the attainment of universal peace, whether this involves devolution of political power, autonomy or independence.
- 3.12. Advocate for an act of self-determination in the remaining non-self-governing territories under Chapter XI of the UN Charter, and respect the wishes of the inhabitants in each case.
- 3.13. Advocate for a review of the status of non-self-governing territories that are not currently subject to UN monitoring, including in the Pacific.
- 3.14. When territories express a desire for greater autonomy or full independence:
 - 3.14.1. Support the principle of self-determination of peoples in all such cases, directly or through the UN, having regard also to the rights and responsibilities of the sovereign States involved.
 - 3.14.2. Introduce into the UN General Assembly a proposal for an expert study to be undertaken, under the auspices of the Secretary-General, concerning possible ways of dealing with issues of secession in a manner that ensures the maintenance of international peace and security and due respect for fundamental human rights, including the right of self-determination.

4. Non-violence

Issues

A world without violence is obtainable. We can work toward a world where non-violent doctrine underpins every response to conflict globally, in the interests of minimising violence at a global scale, and make choices which deliberately build in diplomatic efforts to address conflicts before they spiral out of control. When violence does occur, we must uphold our commitments to international mechanisms for bringing perpetrators to justice.

Actions

- 4.1. Recognise the need to address the legitimate economic and social grievances felt by many groups which foster non-state terrorism, confronting the 'root causes' of terrorism through positive economic, social and political policies.
- 4.2. Support global ratification of the 'crime of aggression' under the Rome Statute of the ICC.
- 4.3. Condemn terrorism by both states and by non-state actors, recognising that they equally visit death and destruction upon innocent people.
- 4.4. Oppose policies of military intervention and occupation, recognising that this increases rather than diminishes terrorism.
- 4.5. Continue to pursue conflict prevention and peaceful resolution of international conflict, including making best efforts to facilitate peace mediation between states and/or non-state actors.
- 4.6. Establish a conflict prevention unit, peace mediation centre, or similar institution committed to fostering positive peace through diverse mechanisms, from grassroots movements to diplomacy.

- 4.7. Support Aotearoa New Zealand defence forces specialising in peacekeeping (see our [Defence and Peacekeeping](#) Policy).
- 4.8. Protect the right for asylum seekers to claim asylum in Aotearoa New Zealand and resource their settlement (see our [Immigration](#) Policy).
- 4.9. Advocate for strict regulation of and transparency from the global arms industry.
- 4.10. Support the completion of treaties banning the manufacture, sale and use of inhumane weapons.
- 4.11. Advocate for global denuclearisation, specifically supporting ratification by all states of the United Nation Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons.