



# FOREIGN POLICY

# ***New Zealand as an active global citizen: UnitedFuture's approach to Foreign Policy***

## **Vision**

United**Future** is committed to an ethical foreign policy, based on international justice, human rights, human security and democracy. United**Future** believes strongly in the dignity of each individual person, whatever their circumstances or their country. Our policy is therefore built on the principles of our country's constructive multilateral engagement with other states to build a safe and globally connected world, and to promote the freedom and equality of all its peoples as follows.

## **Key issues:**

- Contributing to successful peacekeeping and peace building operations
- Encouraging economic development and political stability in the Pacific region
- Securing Free Trade Agreements with important trading partners
- Encouraging our own people to give and serve in various needy situations overseas

## **Human Security**

It is United**Future** policy to:

- Promote international peace and human security in international affairs – the freedom from want and fear, oppression, hunger, disease and war.
- Retain New Zealand's nuclear-free status and international leadership on disarmament issues, actively striving to achieve a world free from nuclear weapons.
- Continue to advocate for disarmament and non proliferation of chemical, nuclear and biological weapons and technologies and anti-civilian munitions such as cluster bombs and land mines.
- Monitor and fulfill New Zealand's own obligations under human rights conventions.
- Continue to work towards the Millennium Development Goals and The International Development Targets.
- Establish overseas aid at 0.5% of GNI immediately and reach the accepted international millennium goal of 0.7% by 2015.
- Establish a disaster relief squad, capable of deployment at short notice to assist in the aftermath of national disasters.
- Establish a 'Peace Corps' for young New Zealanders to volunteer overseas with Government assistance, to be funded out of the 0.7% GNI overseas aid budget.
- Encourage the promotion and strengthening of democracy throughout the international community.
- Play an active role in the fight against violent terrorist organizations, corruption, money laundering, cyber crime and drug and people trafficking.
- Reach a multi-party accord on ten year defence and capital equipment funding for the New Zealand Defence Force so that it is well equipped to meet peacekeeping, peace building, humanitarian and disaster relief operations. We like the concept of having, 'the best small integrated defence force in the world'.

- Institute a New Zealand Defence Medal to be awarded to all those who have served in the New Zealand Armed Forces or the New Zealand Defence Force, including operational and non-operational roles, for four years after 2 September 1945, and a New Zealand Service Medal for those who have completed National Service or Compulsory Military Training.
- Fulfill New Zealand's commitment to refugees and encourage inward immigration of key workers and international students' whilst developing incentives for New Zealanders to stay in New Zealand.

## **Institutional and Multilateral Engagement**

It is United**Future** policy to:

- Promote reform of the United Nations through broadening the membership of the Security Council, and the abolition of the veto.
- Play an active role in and support the United Nations and its agencies as the primary international organization in resolving disputes, conflict and finding solutions to global problems.
- Actively promote the rights of new and emerging democracies to participate fully in the work of international organisations.
- Uphold the principles of democracy, freedom of expression, religious belief, free assembly and the right to dissent.
- Pursue Free Trade Agreements with key trading partners, with a particular focus on India, Japan, the US and Korea.
- Lobby for a better deal for NZ businesses and exporters, including the agricultural sector, with the expanded European Union.
- Fully support regular international and regional meetings (e.g. APEC and CHOGM) and support a bid for New Zealand to host the World Trade Expo within the next ten years.
- Emphasise our developing relationships with Asia and the Pacific Rim, while recognising historical links with the Commonwealth and other parts of the world.
- Continue to support the cancellation of third world debt. Investment by these nations in human development should take priority over debt repayments.
- Support the right to self determination of the people of Taiwan and Tibet.

## **The Pacific**

It is United**Future** policy to:

- Encourage the democratisation and development of Pacific nations.
- Assist in the peaceful resolution of Asia-Pacific issues by offering intermediary facilities, resources and expertise.
- Promote regional agreement on trans-national law and order issues across the South Pacific issues.
- Support the Pacific Islands Forum in encouraging good governance, economic development and political stability in the Pacific Region.