Visit to New Zealand by the European Parliament’s Delegation for Relations with Australia and New Zealand (DANZ)

12-15 February 2018

Introduction

The visit to New Zealand by the members of the Delegation for Relations with Australia and New Zealand (DANZ) was the 22\textsuperscript{nd} Inter-Parliamentary Meeting between the European and New Zealand Parliaments.

The Delegation was led by Ulrike Müller, MEP, from Germany and included Hannu Takkula, MEP from Finland; Derek Vaughan, MEP from Wales; and Monika Vana, MEP from Austria.

The Delegation’s primary focus was to work towards a New Zealand – European Union (EU) free trade agreement.

Meetings with Parliamentarians

The “Inter-Parliamentary Meeting” was conducted through a series of meetings on 13 February. These covered a wide range of issues involving New Zealand-European Union relations particularly agriculture. They also covered approaches to regional and global issues, trade agreements, climate change, the environment and DANZ’s role in the European Parliament.
The delegation first met with the New Zealand Speaker, Rt Hon Trevor Mallard MP and Hon Damien O’Connor MP, Minister of Agriculture, for Biosecurity and Food Safety.

This was followed by a meeting over lunch with New Zealand members of parliament hosted by Fletcher Tabuteau MP, Parliamentary Under-Secretary, Foreign Affairs and Regional Development.

In the afternoon members of the Foreign Affairs, Trade and Defence Committee met the delegation. This was chaired by Hon Mark Mitchell MP. Discussions continued with New Zealand members of Parliament at a dinner hosted by the Speaker.

These series of meetings included Hon Peeni Henare MP, Minister for the Community and Voluntary Sector, Whānau Ora and Youth; Hon Willie Jackson MP, Minister of Employment and Associate Minister for Māori Development; Hon Tracey Martin MP, Minister for Children, of Internal Affairs and Seniors; Hon Aupito William Sio MP, Minister for Pacific Peoples; Hon Anne Tolley MP Deputy Speaker and Rt Hon David Carter MP, former Speaker.

Above: The DANZ delegation lunch hosted by Fletcher Tabuteau MP, with Melissa Lee MP, Rt Hon David Carter MP, Hon Tracey Martin MP, Hon Peeni Henare MP, Marja Lubeck MP, HE Bernie Savage, Ambassador, Delegation for the European Union, Kieran McAnulty MP, Angie Warren-Clark MP and Tim van de Molen MP,

Below: Anders Vistisen MEP, Denmark, Vice Chair of the Foreign Affairs Committee, European Parliament, Hannu Takkula MEP, Golriz Ghahraman MP (Global Affairs Spokesperson, Green Party), Monika Vana MEP, Louisa Wall, MP, Ulrich Müller MEP, Derek Vaughan MEP and Dr Duncan Webb MP
Meetings outside Parliament

The DANZ delegation met with a wide range of persons and entities in Wellington, Martinborough and Auckland to inform their views on New Zealand, on NZ-EU trade and bilateral relations.

These were with Beef and Lamb New Zealand on the New Zealand agriculture sector and trade with the EU; Environment and Conservation of Aotearoa (ECO) on environmental issues in New Zealand and AssureQuality on their work on food assurance, food safety and biosecurity services and how this may look in the future.

At Palliser Estate Winery the delegation met with practitioners, New Zealand vintners from Escarpment, Julicher, Luna and Palliser Estates and local farmers in the south Wairarapa region.

The delegation had intensive talks with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade including the Chief Negotiator in the Trade Negotiations Division on NZ trade relations particularly on the prospects for a NZ-EU Free Trade Agreement. The meeting also included New Zealand’s bilateral relations and development assistance in the Pacific and on regional relations with North Asia.

The delegation visited two special reflective spaces in Wellington: the Pukeahu National War Memorial and Pukeahu Park; and the He Tohu exhibition at the National Library, displaying constitutional documents: the 1835 Declaration of Independence of the United Tribes of New Zealand, the 1840 Treaty of Waitangi and the 1893 Women’s Suffrage Petition.

In Auckland the delegation was briefed by Fonterra on the nature of the company, its markets as well as on how it is addressing and investing in issues of water quality and greenhouse gas mitigation. They heard from New Zealand Winegrowers about the New Zealand wine industry and its relations with the EU.
At the Europe Institute at Auckland University, the delegation fielded a number of questions about the European Union and continued discussions on NZ-EU matters over lunch with the NZ-Europe Business Council. Nine European countries’ business Association leaders from the Council were present, along with the NZ Director of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade’s Auckland Office.

The DANZ delegation at the summit of the Rimutaka Hill travelling from Wellington to Martinborough, Wairarapa, and at the Palliser Estate Winery, including with the Mayor of South Wairarapa Viv Napier and CEO Palliser Estate Pip Goodwin.

The DANZ delegation at He Tohu Exhibition, National Library, Wellington.
At the Europe Institute, University of Auckland. Chair Professor Mark Amsler and included Dr Jennifer Curtin, Public Policy Institute and Dr Hilary Chung, Director, Global Studies Programme.
Delegation at lunch hosted by the New Zealand Europe Business Council in Auckland.

At Wellington’s south coast near the Taputeranga Marine Reserve and at Fonterra with Phil Turner, then Director, Global Stakeholders Affairs.

Conclusion.

The delegation took part in a series of well-informed and wide-ranging discussions that met their objectives in terms of learning more about New Zealand, its relations with the European Union and informing them more on issues that would arise with a New Zealand European Union FTA.

A series of meetings with New Zealand parliamentarians constituted a very engaged 22nd Inter-Parliamentary Meeting.

Of note is that following the visit, the Delegation - together with two Trade Committee rapporteurs for Australia and New Zealand - wrote to European Trade Commissioner Malmström and the Bulgarian Council Presidency in April 2018. They urged action on the NZ-EU FTA, reiterating the European Parliament’s support.
Programme

**Sunday 11 February**
- Arrivals in New Zealand

**Monday 12 February**
- Reception hosted by the Ambassador, EU Delegation to New Zealand

**Tuesday 13 February**
- Meeting with Hon Damien O’Connor, Minister of Agriculture, for Biosecurity and Food Safety, Associate Minister for Trade and Export Growth.
- Official call on Rt Hon Trevor Mallard, Speaker of the New Zealand House of Representatives.
- Visit *He Tohu*, exhibition of historical documents.
- Meeting with Beef and Lamb New Zealand.
- Lunch with New Zealand Members of Parliament hosted by Fletcher Tabuteau MP, Parliamentary Undersecretary to the Minister of Foreign Affairs.
- Introduction to the House/ Observation of Question Time.
- VIP Tour of Parliament.
- Meeting with members of the Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade Committee.
- Meeting with Environment and Conservation Organisation of Aotearoa (ECO).
- Reception and Official Dinner hosted by Rt Hon Trevor Mallard MP Speaker.

**Wednesday 14 February**
- Meeting with AssureQuality
- Visit to Martinborough, Palliser Estate meeting with Vintners and local farmers
- Meeting with Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade

**Thursday 15 February**
- Meeting with Fonterra
- Round Table with Europe Institute, University of Auckland
- Lunch with NZ-Europe Business Council
- Meeting with NZ Winegrowers
- Departures from New Zealand
**Delegation**

**Ms Ulrike Müller**
(Freie Wähler: “Free Voters” Association, Germany)
ALDE: Group of the Alliance of Liberals and Democrats for Europe
MEP 2014 Germany
Chair of DANZ since December 2017.

**Mr Hannu Takkula**
(Suomen Keskusta: Centre Party, Finland)
ALDE: Group of the Alliance of Liberals and Democrats for Europe
MEP 2004, 2009, 2015 Finland
(March 2018 – appointed to EU Court of Auditors)

**Ms Monika Vana**
(Die Grünen - Die Grüne Alternative The Greens, Austria)
Group of the Greens/European Free Alliance (Vice Chair)
MEP 2014 Austria

**Mr Derek Vaughan**
(Labour Party, United Kingdom)
Progressive Alliance of Socialists and Democrats
MEP 2009, 2014 Wales
Chair of the informal Friends of New Zealand (FONZ) group
### Delegation members

**Dr Ulrich Jochheim**  
Administrator, Inter-parliamentary Delegations – Asia, Australia, New Zealand, DG External Policies, European Parliament

**Mr Dominykas Mordas**  
Political Adviser, ALDE: Group of the Alliance of Liberals and Democrats for Europe

**Ms Astrid Knoke**  
Interpreter

**Ms Maria Horlbeck**  
Interpreter