

**Election 2020 – TradeWorks
Trading Promises
Green Party**

1. How would you describe the state of NZ's relationship with China? In your view has the 2008 FTA been a success?

The Government of New Zealand's relationship with the Government of China should be predicated on support for international rule of law, protection of our natural environment, and human rights, as with our relationship with every other state. We should always raise concerns as a priority ahead of economic considerations. The Green Party opposed the 2008 FTA and also the recent upgrade. The Green Party view is that the 2008 FTA has entrenched in a low-value, high-production export model in Aotearoa. For stronger economic, environmental, and social outcomes we need to significantly diversify our export industry and move from volume to value.

2. How would you describe the state of NZ's relationship with the United States? Do you think it advisable or possible to negotiate an FTA with the USA?

The Government of New Zealand's relationship with the Government of the United States should be predicated on support for international rule of law, protection of our natural environment, and human rights, as with our relationship with every other state. We should always raise concerns as a priority ahead of economic considerations. The Green Party supports trade that is fair, protects human and workers' rights, is environmentally sustainable, and honours te Tiriti o Waitangi. If an FTA that lived up to those principles was possible then we would support transparent negotiations with the United States, with any agreement coming back to Parliament for a vote.

3. Is your party committed to concluding FTAs with the European Union and the UK? Do you think concluding these agreements should depend on strong market access outcomes for agriculture? What else would be important for you?

Market access outcomes are important for NZ exporters, but there must be a far wider set of considerations when negotiating trade agreements as set out above. We shouldn't sign agreements that will weaken workers' rights, environmental protection, or Aotearoa's ability to honour te Tiriti in Aotearoa.

4. Should trade agreements include enforceable environmental provisions?

Yes. We know that trade agreements now include far more in their provisions than what relates directly to trade, including de-regulation of a wide range of areas and protection of profits for foreign investors. It is only fair and in our common interest to ensure New Zealand's commitment to combatting climate crisis and protecting our natural environment is made clear and enforceable. Also, international environmental agreements should take precedence over trade agreements. The Green Party supports aligning all trade agreements Aotearoa signs with the Paris Agreement's climate change commitments.

5. How can trade agreements assist the services and creative industries and the digital economy?

We need to give a voice to a greater range of people in trade negotiations so that we can get agreements that work for the greater public good. Trade agreements often include broad deregulation of our intellectual property laws and digital economy, while entrenching existing multinational corporate monopolies in those areas, as did the CPTPPA. Protections for our local and global resurgence of creative, fair, trade and industry is essential for a sustainable economy. This should include the services and creative industries and those in the digital sector like software firms.

6. Should trade agreements include specific provisions to address the inclusion of women, Maori and small business?

Yes, in particular there should be specific provisions in all our agreements that ensure Aotearoa can give full effect to Te Tiriti o Waitangi and our commitment to equality and non-discrimination against all marginalised groups, reflected in our international and domestic human rights commitments.

7. Should trade agreements seek to promote foreign direct investment and if so how?

Foreign direct investment needs to be carefully regulated to ensure it is in the best interests of Aotearoa. Foreign investment must meet justice and sustainability criteria, and not be merely speculative, or lead to the expatriation of profits from a country's productive assets, or the alienation of a country's land from its citizens.