

TPPA — Don't Ratify!

Governments may have signed the Trans-Pacific Partnership Agreement (TPPA) but it does not come into force until it is ratified, a process likely to take at least two years. We will oppose the TPPA in New Zealand and globally.



Signing the TPPA was largely a symbolic step. It will only come into force when ratified by countries with 85% of the TPPA GDP. This may never happen — there is strong opposition in the US, Canada and other countries.

In Aotearoa New Zealand, a majority of Kiwis reject the TPPA. We will use democracy to protect our democracy. We build a movement that will defeat the TPPA in Parliament, reject it at the next General Election or rip it up whenever we elect a progressive government.

Join the campaign. Make your voice heard.

www.itsourfuture.org.nz

Face the Facts — the TPPA is not in our interests

After six years of secret negotiations, we now know what’s in the TPPA. Expert peer reviewed research has analysed the reality behind the political spin.

The Spin	The Facts
1. The TPPA will deliver economic benefits	The government’s modelling shows 0.9% on GDP increase of 47% by 2030. The reality is that the benefits have been hugely exaggerated and the costs will be far higher.
2. We won’t be sued by multinationals for new laws and policies	The TPPA’s protections from cases in discredited offshore tribunals are ineffective. Claims against NZ could now include medicine patents, mining rights and PPP contracts.
3. The investor state dispute settlement system (ISDS) is robust	There is still no appeals mechanism, little transparency and no prevention of conflicts of interest. Foreign corporations can bypass NZ’s judicial system and go to an ISDS panel.
4. Legitimate government policy won’t be undermined	Governments will be handcuffed in their ability to regulate in the public interest. The threat of an ISDS case can chill its willingness to act, shown by the delay in plain packaging for cigarettes.
5. PHARMAC will be protected and medicines won’t cost more	The Prime Minister conceded that medicines will cost more, and US politicians and corporates are saying they want even more gains than have been agreed to so far.
6. The environment will be protected	Mention of climate change was removed from the text. Stronger regulation of greenhouse gas emissions, mining, fracking and pollution will face risks of ISDS challenges.
7. The Treaty of Waitangi is fully protected	Maori haven’t even been consulted and the Treaty of Waitangi exception is no guarantee of protection.
8. We will gain market access for agriculture	The gains are minimal, spread over many years, and are least in areas most important to NZ, such as in dairy.
9. It’s good for business	The TPPA’s US-centric rules on intellectual property, services and ISDS will reinforce the advantages for large multinationals, not NZ’s entrepreneurs and SMEs.
10. Free trade deals are good for New Zealand	Comparisons with other FTAs are misleading. The Australian Productivity Commission’s 2010 report showed no net benefit for Australia from their FTA with the US.
11. If we don’t agree the TPPA, we will lose out	The TPPA would lock in liberalisation policies from the past. We can only protect our environment, human rights and social equity, while securing a better economic future, by maintaining our independence and sovereignty.

See research on the TPPA at www.tpplegal.wordpress.com