



DELEGATION FOR RELATIONS WITH AUSTRALIA AND NEW ZEALAND

(23 members)

Chairmen

1979-1982	Mr Hemmo MUNTINGH	(SOC, Netherlands)
1983-1984	Mrs Joyce QUIN	(SOC, UK)
1984-1986	Mrs Undine BLOCH von BLOTTNITZ	(ARC, Germany)
1986-1989	Mrs Eva GREDAL	(SOC, Denmark)
1989-1994	Mr Panayotis LAMBRIAS	(EPP, Greece)
1994-1996	Mr Hugh KERR	(PES, UK)
1997-1999	Mr James NICHOLSON	(I-EDN, UK)
1999-2001	Mr James NICHOLSON	(EPP-ED, UK)
2002-2004	Mr Robert STURDY	(EPP-ED, UK)
2004- 2007	Mr Neil PARISH	(EPP.ED, UK)
2007-2008	Mr Giles CHICHESTER	(EPP-ED, UK)
2008	Mr Timothy KIRKHOPE	(EPP-ED, UK)
2008-2009	Mr Giles CHICHESTER	(EPP-ED, UK)

EU-Australia/New Zealand relations

The current basis for the EU-Australia relationship is the EU-Australia Partnership Framework that was adopted in October 2008 in Paris. This deepens the overall framework of the partnership by strengthening multilateral and bilateral dialogue.

The framework for the EU-New Zealand relationship is the EU-New Zealand Joint Declaration on Relations and Cooperation which was adopted in September 2007 in Lisbon. There is currently discussion about how this might be further upgraded through a comprehensive international EU-New Zealand Agreement covering political and security areas as well as economic areas.

Relations between the EU and the two countries are underpinned by trade but there has been an expansion in recent years of political and economic links. The partners cooperate closely on challenges such as security and counter terrorism, development aid, stability in the Asia-Pacific region, energy, the environment and climate change. There are annual consultations between the Foreign Ministers and Senior Officials and a range of sectoral dialogues covering areas such as trade, agriculture and the environment.

Activities of the European Parliament delegation

Every year, if possible, the delegation visits one of the partner countries and hosts a visit from the other counterpart; e.g. in 2008 the Australian delegation came to Brussels and the European Parliament delegation visited New Zealand.

The delegation has 23 members, of whom 20 members plus the Chair are entitled to travel in every two year period.

The visits of the Australian and New Zealand counterparts to Europe are centred on a formal interparliamentary meeting with an agreed agenda. The subjects on the agenda include the EU-Australia/New Zealand relationship; agriculture; environment and climate change; energy issues; education; developments in the EU and Australia/New Zealand; immigration and global politics. The meetings of the visiting members with the European Parliament are one element in a broader programme of meetings in Europe.

Visits to Australia and New Zealand of the European Parliament delegation focus on a specific theme; e.g. the visit to Australia in February 2009 concentrated on climate change and the financial and economic crisis. The central part of the visit to the two countries is the time spent meeting with parliamentary counterparts in Canberra and Wellington. A further standard feature of the delegation visits is meeting with university staff and students in which the MEPs give an overview of developments in the EU.

In addition to the meetings with the Australian and New Zealand parliamentarians there are also ongoing contacts with the Missions to the EU of the two countries and other individuals and bodies involved in the relationship.

Future activities

A visit to Brussels by a delegation from the New Zealand Parliament is anticipated on 14 and 15 October 2009. If the current rhythm of meetings is maintained in 2010 there will be a visit to New Zealand at some point in the year and an incoming delegation from Australia around April.

Map of Australia



Map of New Zealand



Activities during the 2004-2009 legislature

Australia

- 28th EU-Australia IPM	February 2005	Sydney, Canberra, Melbourne, Coles Bay, Hobart
- 29th EU-Australia IPM	April 2006	Brussels
- 30th EU-Australia IPM	February 2007	Sydney, Canberra, Ayers Rock, Perth
- 31st EU-Australia IPM	April 2008	Brussels
- 32nd EU-Australia IPM	February 2009	Sydney, Canberra, Melbourne Christchurch, Queenstown

New Zealand

- 12th EU-New Zealand IPM	February 2006	Auckland, Wellington, Christchurch
- 13th EU-New Zealand IPM	April 2006	Brussels
- 14th EU-New Zealand IPM	October 2007	Brussels
- 15th EU-New Zealand IPM	July 2008	Auckland, Bay of Islands, Wellington,

Other activities

November 2005	Ms Helen CLARK, Prime Minister of New Zealand, Foreign Affairs Committee
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Meetings during previous legislative period

AUSTRALIA

- 1st interparliamentary meeting	March 1981	Canberra, Sydney, Adelaide, Perth
- 2nd interparliamentary meeting	October 1982	Strasbourg
- 3rd interparliamentary meeting	October 1983	Strasbourg
- 4th interparliamentary meeting	October 1985	Strasbourg
- 5th interparliamentary meeting	November 1985	Canberra, Sydney, Cairns
- 6th interparliamentary meeting	September 1986	Strasbourg
- 7th interparliamentary meeting	September 1987	Strasbourg
- 8th interparliamentary meeting	April 1988	Canberra, Hobart, Melbourne, Brisbane
- 9th interparliamentary meeting	September 1988	Strasbourg
- 10th interparliamentary meeting	October 1989	Strasbourg
- 11th interparliamentary meeting	October 1990	Strasbourg
- 12th interparliamentary meeting	March 1991	Strasbourg
- 13th interparliamentary meeting	September 1991	Canberra, Sydney, Melbourne
- 14th interparliamentary meeting	September 1992	Strasbourg
- 15th interparliamentary meeting	September 1993	Strasbourg
- 16th interparliamentary meeting	November 1993	Canberra, Sydney, Cairns
- 17th interparliamentary meeting	October 1994	Brussels
- 18th interparliamentary meeting	May 1995	Adelaide, Canberra
- 19th interparliamentary meeting	October 1995	Strasbourg
- 20th interparliamentary meeting	September 1996	Strasbourg
- 21st interparliamentary meeting	July 1997	Brussels
- 22nd interparliamentary meeting	November 1997	Sydney, Canberra, Broome, Perth
- 23rd interparliamentary meeting	April 1998	Brussels
- 24th interparliamentary meeting	June 2000	Strasbourg
- 25th interparliamentary meeting	May 2001	Sydney, Canberra, Cairns/Port Douglas
- 26th interparliamentary meeting	September 2002	Brussels
- 27th EP/Australia	April 2004	Strasbourg

NEW ZEALAND

- 1st interparliamentary meeting	February 1981	Wellington, Auckland, Christchurch
- 2nd interparliamentary meeting	February 1985	Strasbourg
- 3rd interparliamentary meeting	November 1985	Wellington, Nelson, Auckland, Rotorua
- 4th interparliamentary meeting	May 1987	Strasbourg
- 5th interparliamentary meeting	April 1988	Wellington, Auckland, Christchurch
- 6th interparliamentary meeting	February 1991	Wellington
- 7th interparliamentary meeting	March 1993	Brussels
- 8th interparliamentary meeting	May 1995	Auckland, Wellington
- 9th interparliamentary meeting	March 2000	Auckland, Wellington and Marlborough
- 10th interparliamentary meeting	October 2002	Strasbourg
- 11th interparliamentary meeting	February 2003	Auckland, Wellington, Christchurch, Mount Cook

Secretariat (as of September 2009)

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