

Proactive Release

Published on or before: 23 February 2026

The following Cabinet papers and related Cabinet minutes have been proactively released by the Minister of Foreign Affairs

Title	Reference
<i>Cabinet Minute of Decision – Report on Overseas Travel: Rt Hon Winston Peters – October/November 2025</i>	CAB-25-MIN-0457
<i>Report on Overseas Travel: Rt Hon Winston Peters – October/November 2025</i>	

Proactively Released by the Minister of Foreign Affairs



Cabinet

Minute of Decision

This document contains information for the New Zealand Cabinet. It must be treated in confidence and handled in accordance with any security classification, or other endorsement. The information can only be released, including under the Official Information Act 1982, by persons with the appropriate authority.

Report on Overseas Travel: Rt Hon Winston Peters – October / November 2025

Portfolio Foreign Affairs

On 15 December 2025, Cabinet **noted** the report from the Rt Hon Winston Peters under CAB-25-SUB-0457 on his travel, from 19 October to 1 November 2025, to the United Kingdom, Iceland, Finland, Norway, Sweden and Denmark to undertake bilateral visits.

Diana Hawker
for Secretary of the Cabinet

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Office of the Minister of Foreign Affairs
Chair, Cabinet

Report on Overseas Travel: Rt Hon Winston Peters – 19 October-1 November 2025

This paper recommends that Cabinet note this report on travel to the United Kingdom, Iceland, Norway, Denmark, Sweden, and Finland from 19 October-1 November 2025.

Report

- 1 The purpose of this travel was to undertake bilateral engagements in all six destination countries and engage in the first New Zealand-Nordic 5 meeting.

Bilateral visit to United Kingdom

- 2 In London, we participated in the second annual New Zealand – United Kingdom Foreign Ministers' Dialogue with Foreign Secretary, Yvette Cooper. This discussion built on their first meeting in the margins of UNGA High Level week in October. We met with Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State, Seema Malhotra (junior Minister in the Foreign Commonwealth and Development Office with responsibility for the Indo-Pacific and Oceans); Shadow Foreign Secretary Dame Priti Patel; and Reform UK leader Nigel Farage. We also participated in an Oxford Union Debate.
- 3 Across these meetings, we underlined New Zealand's value as a reliable and trusted partner in support of the rules-based international order. Discussions confirmed the strength and breadth of the bilateral relationship, with on-going cooperation on defence and security, including with respect to the war in Ukraine; supporting the UK's enduring presence in the Pacific; growing our trading relationship; and enhancing people-to-people collaborations. They provided an opportunity to discuss practical cooperation in support of shared objectives.

Bilateral visits to Iceland, Norway, Sweden, Finland and Denmark

- 4 The travel to Iceland, Norway, Sweden, Finland and Denmark consisted of bilateral engagements at each destination and the first ever meeting between New Zealand and the Nordic 5 Foreign Ministers.
- 5 Our meetings across the region emphasised a shared view on the importance of an effective and inclusive multilateral system; conflict prevention and resolution; and NATO cooperation. We exchanged perspectives on key strategic challenges for our respective regions, including polar governance, geopolitical issues, and national security and resilience. We advocated for additional European support to the Pacific.

- 6 The centrepiece of the Nordic programme was the **inaugural Nordic New Zealand Foreign Ministers' meeting** in Stockholm. This discussion focused on areas of New Zealand-Nordic cooperation, the Indo-Pacific, and the war in Ukraine. We also participated in a joint press conference with Nordic Ministers and issued a joint statement.
- 7 In addition:
- In **Iceland** we signed a Double Tax Agreement, announced the launch of negotiations on a Working Holiday Scheme, and agreed to formalise geothermal cooperation. The resulting memorandum of arrangement was signed by Minister Watts at COP 30.
 - We met with Ukrainian Foreign Minister Andrii Sybiha who was also visiting **Norway**, building on their discussion at UNGA High Level week.
 - In **Denmark**, our meetings demonstrated tangible commercial interest in investing in New Zealand's renewable energy and logistics sectors.
 - In **Sweden**, we delivered a public address at an event co-hosted by the Swedish Institute for International Affairs on 28 October.
 - In **Finland**, our discussions identified areas for further collaboration as including dual use/high technology products, defence, and space.

Proactive release

This Cabinet paper would be proactively released as per Cabinet Office Circular CO(18) 4, on the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade's website. Proactive release is subject to redaction as appropriate under the Official Information Act 1982.

Recommendation

It is recommended that Cabinet note this report.

Authorised for lodgement

Rt Hon Winston Peters

Minister of Foreign Affairs