NEW ZEALAND
FOREIGN AFFAIRS & TRADE
Manatū Aorere

Closely Connected

New Zealand and the Netherlands

38% Trade Growth

Since the FTA entered into force on 1 May 2024, bilateral trade has risen rapidly to ~€1.5 billion.

#1 Investor

The Netherlands is already the leading source of EU investment into New Zealand.

0% Tariffs

Elimination of tariffs (0%) on all EU exports to New Zealand under the FTA saving businesses €140 million in duties per year.

NZ – EU Free Trade Agreement

Predictable Rules Practical Opportunities

In an increasingly uncertain and contested global trading environment, businesses seek trusted markets, reliable partners and predictable rules. New Zealand and the Netherlands are natural partners: open, innovative trading nations with strong institutions, shared values and similar business cultures.

The NZ – EU FTA improves market access, reduces barriers and gives Dutch businesses greater certainty to trade, invest, innovate and grow. The opportunity extends beyond the FTA. Building on longstanding economic and people-to-people connections, it helps businesses diversify markets and strengthen resilience.

The links that bind us

The relationship is underpinned by a broader architecture, including Horizon Europe research cooperation, a tax treaty and customs cooperation arrangements. Reinforced by low corruption, a skilled English-speaking workforce, an attractive investment programme, and trusted digital standards, these frameworks make New Zealand an innovative, connected and easy place to do business—while its extensive network of other FTAs provides a gateway into the wider Indo-Pacific.

NZ Association with Horizon Europe | **22 ongoing projects under Pillar II** | **> ½ New Zealand researchers collaborate with European partners**

Opportunities in Practice: Read the stories on our website

From the Keukenhof to Canterbury
Every autumn, when the bulb fields of the Bollenstreek lie empty, farmers on the other side of the world are getting back to work.

More Dairy for More People
Feeding a growing world is one of the great challenges of our time. For the dairy industry, that means finding ways to scale up nutrition without cutting corners on quality.

Scan here to read more:

https://www.mfat.govt.nz/eu-nz-fta-in-action

NZ-EU FTA – The Netherlands

FREE TRADE AGREEMENT BENEFITS

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AT A GLANCE:

Entered into force
1 May 2024

Two-way trade between New Zealand and the Netherlands has increased by
38% Since June 2024

Eliminates Tariffs on 100% of EU's goods exported to New Zealand

New Zealand total GDP of
€ 225 Billion EUR

Potential opportunities for Dutch exports identified in horticulture, dairy, and maritime services.

TRADE STATS - YEAR ENDED JUNE 2026

NZ-EU two-way trade €12.31b

- EU exported €7.61 billion worth of goods and services to New Zealand.
- Value of goods and services exported to New Zealand increased by 11% compared to the year ended June 2025.
- EU imported €4.7 billion worth of goods and services from New Zealand, increasing by 18% compared to the year ended June 2025.

NZ-Netherlands two-way trade €1.52b

- Netherlands exported €485 million of goods and services to New Zealand.
- Value of goods and services exported to New Zealand have stayed the same as the year ended June 2025.
- Netherlands imported €1.03 billion worth of goods and services from New Zealand, increasing by 19% compared to the year ended June 2025.

Trade data may be affected by goods transiting to other European countries through Dutch ports (Rotterdam effect)

KEY ADVANTAGES FOR DUTCH BUSINESSES

Tariff elimination

- Tariffs have been eliminated (0%) for all EU goods exported to New Zealand.
- EU products which benefit include motor vehicles and parts (previous tariffs up to 10%); food and live animals (previously up to 5%); pharmaceuticals (previously up to 5%); and shoes, clothing and textiles (previously up to 10%).
- 91% of New Zealand's goods trade to the EU entered duty free from entry into force, rising to 97% by 2031.

Investment

- New Zealand has raised the screening threshold for non-governmental EU investors from NZ$100 million to NZ$200 million.
- With limited exceptions, New Zealand will not impose nationality requirements for specific key positions at companies owned by the other Party.

Government procurement

- EU companies can tender, on an equal footing with local suppliers for contracts with all public authorities who are covered by New Zealand's Government Procurement Rules.
- Last year, New Zealand Government agencies spent approximately €25.8 billion on goods and services.

Business mobility

- The FTA includes advanced provisions for the movement of business professionals, allowing Dutch firms to efficiently post managers or specialists and their families to subsidiaries in New Zealand.

Intellectual property protection

- Recognition and protection of Dutch geographical indications such as Gelderland, Limburg, Noord-Barbant and Zealand wines; and Edam, Gouda, and Hollandse geitenkaas cheeses.

A gold-standard FTA

Flexible and modern rules of origin

- Origin rules reflect modern supply chains with provisions for 'cumulation' of materials and processes and 'tolerances' for the level of non-originating materials.
- Alternatives to third party certificates reduce transaction costs for exporters.

Promotion of international standards

- The FTA increases cooperation in the development and adoption of technical regulations, standards, and conformity assessment procedures.

Trade and sustainable development (TSD)

- The TSD chapter contains ambitious sustainability commitments including to the Paris Climate Agreement and core labour standards.
- Tariffs on trade in green goods such as renewable energy and energy efficient products are eliminated.
- The chapter contains dedicated trade and gender equality provisions.

Certainty and transparency

Beyond reducing tariffs, the EU-NZ Free Trade Agreement provides clearer rules and more certainty. Requirements and procedures are more transparent with agreed rules for services, investment and digital trade.

This means that Dutch businesses can resolve issues more quickly, face reduced compliance costs, and have greater certainty for future shipments.