

TPPA FACTS

Top 10 Arguments For & Against the TPPA

The TPPA is a 'trade' deal that has been negotiated in secret by New Zealand, the US and ten other countries for the past 5 years. This factsheet summarises the pros and cons for New Zealand signing up to the TPPA. For more detail on all these points see factsheets #1-8.

TOP 10 REASONS TO SIGN THE TPPA



1. The TPPA could add an extra \$2.7 billion to GDP by 2030 (that's a rise of 0.9%).

2. By signing, New Zealand gains better access to significant regional markets.

3. Parties agreed to implement the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (not enforceable)

4. The investment chapter provides an overall greater level of protection for New Zealanders investing overseas.

5. Principles for increased transparency in pharmaceutical purchasing (not legally enforceable)

6. No longer the serious violation on national drug and medicine pricing that it once threatened to be.

TOP 10 REASONS NOT TO SIGN



1. It could also result in a loss of 5,000 jobs by 2025, and increased income inequality.

2. New Zealand govt could lose billions of dollars in lawsuits under the ISDS system

3. Foreign investors could sue the government to prevent progressive environmental reforms.

4. The TPPA gives more power to foreign investors, with no provision to keep profits in New Zealand.

5. Pharmaceutical companies could sue our government over policy decisions they perceive as negatively affecting their profits

6. Patent extensions could still mean delays and extra costs getting new drugs to NZ.

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TOP 10 REASONS TO SIGN THE TPPA



7. Support for open data flows and competition in the telecommunications market.

8. Exception in relation to plants because of significance of indigenous plants to Māori (not guaranteed)

9. The TPPA features a Treaty of Waitangi exception clause.

10. Reduced customs clearing times, which would facilitate trade.

TOP 10 REASONS NOT TO SIGN



7. 20 year extension in copyright terms will cost the consumer at least \$55 million a year.

8. Criminal liability for breaking "digital locks" on content, even content you have paid for.

9. Leaves rights and interests of Māori vulnerable to foreign states and corporations who have no obligations under the Treaty of Waitangi.

10. In order to be included in the TPPA, NZ has to change our laws to be more like US laws.

In pro-TPPA rhetoric, the deal is marketed as a "21st century agreement." But one has to ask, if this 21st century trade agreement undercuts democratic processes at home and abroad, and is kept secret from the public and our elected officials during negotiations while being open to lobbyists, who does the 21st century belong to? Will people and governments be allowed to protect public health and the environment –or defend indigenous rights and affordable medicines? Or will corporate lobbyists set the terms? Our hope is that these fact sheets will help you to participate in that decision.