

Creation of a Multicultural Framework through legislation

The Federation promotes a Multicultural Framework for New Zealand. This framework by legislation or otherwise must:

Ensure the equal treatment of individuals and prohibit discrimination including that on the basis of ethnicity.

The Human Rights Act of New Zealand provides guidance to society on this, but as it stands it lacks the clout to prevent social behaviours that are detrimental to the sustenance of an inclusive society. The inability to stop recent racial slurs against Asians and other ethnicities clearly indicates that existing legislation of rights has not adequately protected the needs of more recent settlers.

Recognise the particular status of Maori as Tangata Whenua and the rights of all peoples under the Treaty of Waitangi.

Recognise that everyone in this country has at least one ethnicity and that discrimination on the basis of race/ethnicity is unlawful.



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New Zealand Federation of Multicultural Councils

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Pancha Narayanan (past president NZFMC) who has been credited for shaping the community based thinking for a Treaty-based Multicultural Legislation and Framework for New Zealand.

Katherine Peet of Network Waitangi Otautahi whose work places particular emphasis on encouraging those who do not have Maori ancestry to understand the Treaty of Waitangi.

and the voluntary contribution of **Bunkhouse graphic design.**

TREATY-BASED MULTICULTURAL NEW ZEALAND

Our understanding and our practice of the Treaty of Waitangi

The New Zealand Federation of Multicultural Councils (NZFMC) is committed to a Treaty-based multicultural society in which Maori have particular status as Tangata Whenua.

The Federation's own practices are based on the view that the Treaty is the Maori text *Te Tiriti o Waitangi* and that it is for all peoples living in Aotearoa, not just for Maori.

As a Non Government Organisation (NGO), the Federation works on this approach by committing to a new way of working in a Treaty Relationships framework where

Tangata Whenua and Tangata Tiriti work together, and separately, to develop next steps for a Treaty-based multicultural future.

Tangata Whenua: people who whakapapa to a Maori ancestor.

Tangata Tiriti: people who have no whakapapa to Maori ancestry but reside in New Zealand or are New Zealand citizens.



The Federation understands that the Treaty of Waitangi sets out:

- an invitation to Tangata Tiriti to share this country with Tangata Whenua
- the agreement for the shape of governance in this country
- the basis for social justice for all.





All the following 5 aspects of the Treaty of Waitangi need to be taken together, as a whole:

- **Preamble:** Peace with justice for all
- **Article 1:** Practising Kawanatanga
- **Article 2:** Promoting Tino Rangatiratanga by Tangata Whenua
- **Article 3:** Maori participation in Kawanatanga in ways determined by Maori in relation to tikanga
- **Article 4:** Everybody's belief systems upheld.

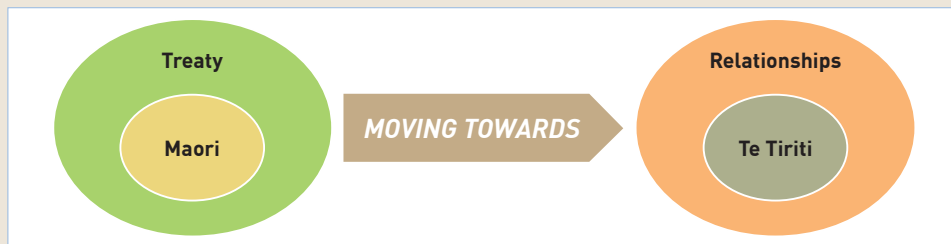
In promoting the restoration and enhancement of Tino Rangatiratanga, the Federation recognises that this collective vision for the future was pivotal to the signing of the Treaty.

Development based on the Treaty can not be substituted by:

- Equal/equitable development
- Culture, cultural differences, cultural safety and intercultural development
- Biculturalism
- Understanding history and colonisation
- Treaty settlements
- Principles of the Treaty e.g. Partnership, Protection and Participation
- The English version of the Treaty (which was not present on 6 February 1840).

Our aspirations for a Treaty-based Multicultural future

This Treaty Relationships approach encourages all people (Tangata Whenua and Tangata Tiriti) to work together, building on the networks of cultural relationships to build a multicultural future that engenders the spirit of the Treaty that is unique to New Zealand.



Understanding these relationships highlights much that we have in common. Further resources on this matter are available through the work on Strong Sustainability www.phase2.org

As an NGO, NZFMC works alongside and independent of Government (central, regional and local) and of the Commercial Sector. Along with other NGOs the Federation's work, using a Treaty Relationships framework, has developed our understanding of the role of Tangata Tiriti in developing a Treaty-based multicultural future where the indigenous status of Tangata Whenua is understood.

The Federation encourages the Crown (Government of New Zealand) to uphold the Treaty.

Our basis for a Treaty-based Multicultural future

For the purposes of this work, the Federation defines this country's *multiculturalism* as the recognition and promotion of a society in which:

- All cultures and ethnicities that make up New Zealand are acknowledged.
- The indigenous rights of Tangata Whenua are honoured and recognised.
- The full and equitable participation of every individual from all cultures and ethnic groups is promoted.
- The existence of all ethnic communities, their histories and heritages are celebrated.
- Inter-cultural understanding is promoted.

This will ensure that:

1. Every individual is equal as reflected in the United Nation's Universal Declaration of Human Rights where there is no discrimination on the grounds of race, colour, sex, language, religion, political or other opinion, national or social origin, property, birth or other status.
2. The inherent rights of Tangata Whenua as the indigenous people, as acknowledged in the United Nation's Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples is affirmed. This includes their culture, spiritual traditions, histories and philosophies, especially their rights to their lands, territories and resources.
3. History and heritage of all ethnic groups living in this country are nurtured and protected equally; and
4. All social, cultural, economic and political institutions are assisted in adopting an inclusive approach in their endeavours.

Multiculturalism Act

The implication of any Multiculturalism Act and Framework for Multiculturalism arises clearly from community aspirations to place issues of ethnicity and culture beyond simply party-political debate and intervention.

The concept of 'ethnicity' as often understood in this country today is outdated. It is imperative that it be acknowledged that every New Zealander has an ethnicity (or multiple ethnicities). Thus a more inclusive definition of ethnicity includes any human group with racial, religious and/or linguistic characteristics in common. Simply said, ethnicity is not just about appearance or eating, dressing and speaking differently.