

RESOLUTIONS – RESOLUCIONES – RÉOLUTIONS - RESOLUÇÕES

ONLY ONE RESOLUTION PER SHEET! | SOLO UNA RESOLUCIÓN POR HOJA!
UNE SEULE RÉOLUTION PAR FEUILLE! | APENAS UMA RESOLUÇÃO POR FOLHA!

TITLE/ TITULO/ TITRE/TÍTULO:	CALL ON THE NZ GOVERNMENT TO UPHOLD AND HONOUR TE TIRITI O WAITANGI
ORGANIZATION/ ORGANIZACIÓN/ ORGANISATION/ORGANIZAÇÃO:	Akbayan Youth, NZYL
COUNTRY/ PAÍS/ PAYS/PAÍS:	Philippines, New Zealand

We call on the Government of New Zealand to honour and uphold Te Tiriti o Waitangi, the founding document of Aotearoa New Zealand.

Te Tiriti o Waitangi established the relationship between the tangata whenua (indigenous peoples) of Aotearoa and the British Crown (now represented by the New Zealand Government). Te Tiriti conferred protection to Māori, including their land, taonga (treasures) and sovereignty, offered them a right to participation in the democratic processes in New Zealand, and guaranteed equal partnership in democratic processes and state governance on equal terms as the British Crown. It also granted Europeans and other non-Māori (tangata tiriti) to live in Aotearoa safely and peacefully, in accordance with their own traditions and customs.

These promises of protection, participation and partnership with Māori have been violated many times since Te Tiriti was signed on 6 February 1840. Severe violations include the Raupatu and seizure of the Waikato, the prohibition of te reo Māori (the Māori language) and punishment of its speakers, and the Western institutions that have contributed to shocking disparities in life expectancy, education rates, wealth, and ultimately self-determination (tino rangatiratanga) between New Zealand Europeans and Māori.

For a long time, Te Tiriti o Waitangi was ignored by the state. But in recent decades it has gained new prominence and recognition as the founding document of Aotearoa as part of the British Empire, and New Zealand Governments have taken notice and action and established new institutions to address the issues arising from the breaches of Te Tiriti. As one example, and in line with the spirit of partnership and protection, the latest Labour Government established new

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institutions such as the Te Aka Whai Ora - the Māori Health Authority, to address the disparities in healthcare and life expectancy.

These moves to address deep disparities, which resulted from British imperialism, have been opposed by right-wing political parties and institutions in New Zealand. The new right-wing Coalition Government (between National, New Zealand First, and Act), ran on a platform of disestablishing Te Aka Whai Ora, among other pro-Māori institutions. The Act Party in particular has taken aim at Te Tiriti itself, and has looked to pass a law that would entrench the principles of Te Tiriti o Waitangi in statute. These principles (partnerships, protection, participation) are already well established in rulings from the New Zealand courts, but the Act party wishes to legally define these in law in a way which undermines Māori sovereignty.

By allowing a public debate on this bill, and the Principles of Te Tiriti o Waitangi, the Government has risked sewing division, brewing hatred, and creating fear amongst New Zealanders, aimed towards Māori. As such, we call on the New Zealand Government to oppose this bill, re-establish all institutions that work to amend the intergenerational impacts of colonisation on Māori, and honour and uphold Te Tiriti o Waitangi.

NOTE: Please number each line!

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