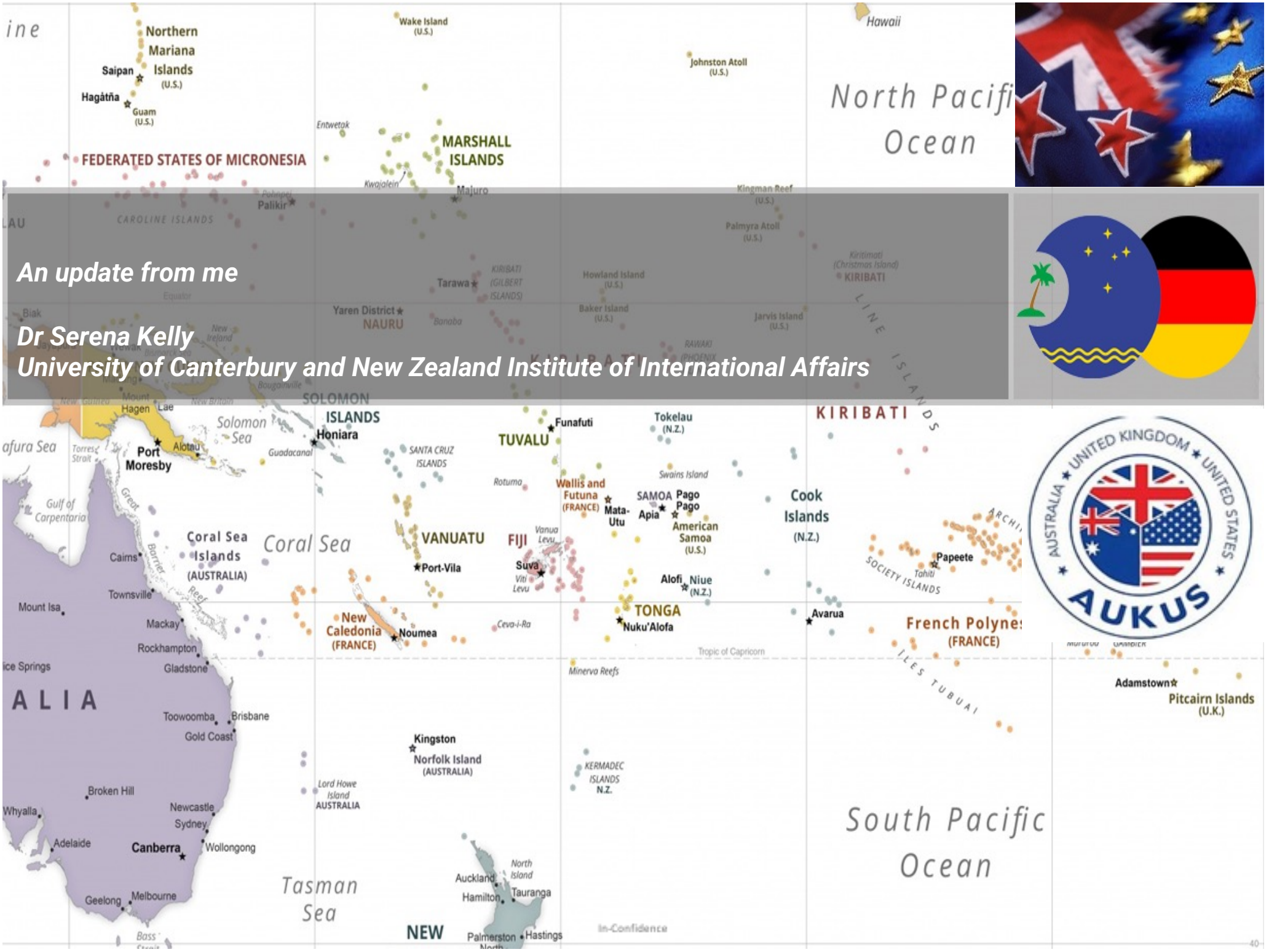
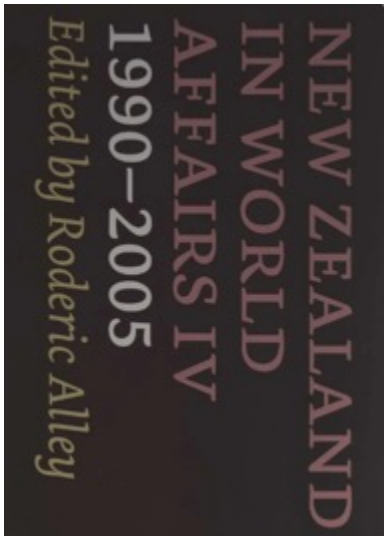
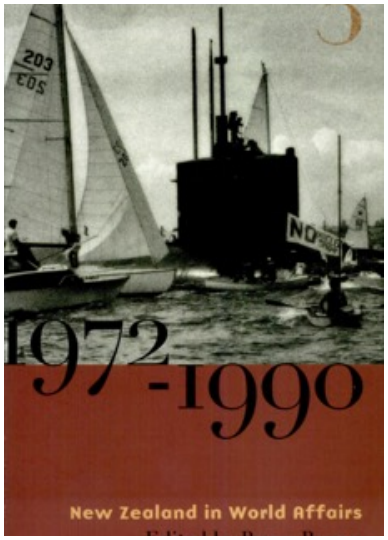


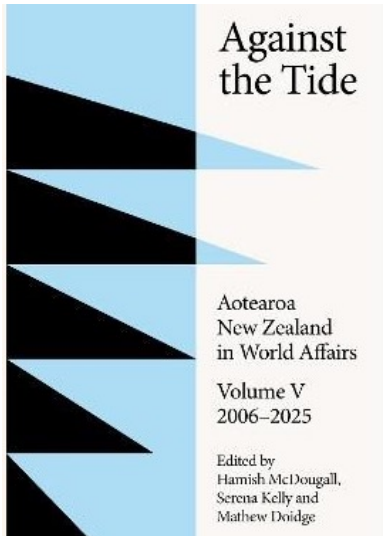
An update from me

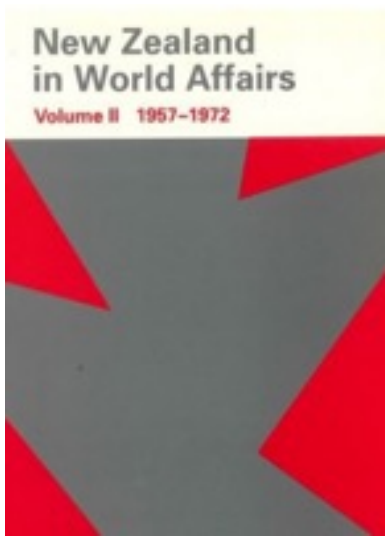
Dr Serena Kelly
University of Canterbury and New Zealand Institute of International Affairs

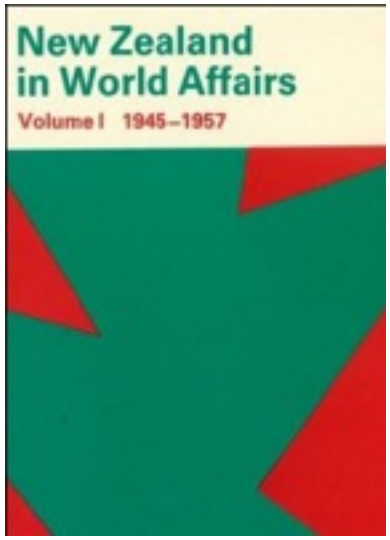
Aotearoa New Zealand in World Affairs V











Classification: In-Confidence

Introduction	**Aotearoa New Zealand in world affairs in the new millennium** *Hamish McDougall, Serena Kelly and Mathew Doidge*
Chapter 1	**9/11, the Emerging Strategic Environment, and New Zealand** *Robert G. Patman*
Chapter 2	**From 'no direct threat' to the 'need to defend ourselves': New Zealand Defence over the last Twenty Years** *Bethan Greener*
Chapter 3	**Steady at the Helm: New Zealand Trade Policy During Global Change** *Catherine Grant Makorewa and Christian Dietrich*
Chapter 4	**Te Pae Tawhiti: 30 years of Māori Engagement in Trade** *Carrie Stoddart-Smith and Jason Paul Mika*
Chapter 5	**He Tai Pari: Māori International relationships and their implications for Aotearoa New Zealand's role in the world** *Annie Te One and Rhieve Grey*
Chapter 6	**Innovation, technology and New Zealand's evolving approach to science diplomacy** *Hema Shridhar and Peter D. Gluckman*
Chapter 7	**Aotearoa New Zealand's foreign affairs below and beyond the national** *Vanessa Bramwell, Robert Broughton, Shine Choi and Bethan Greener*
Chapter 8	**New Zealand's Approach to Development Cooperation and Trade Policy through a Gender Lens** *Mia Mikic and Stephanie Honey*
Chapter 9	**New Zealand Multilateral Diplomacy: Advancing national and collective interests** *Colin Keating*

Challenges Facing European Foreign Policy

- The ongoing war in Ukraine
- Managing relations with the second Trump administration ("Trump 2.0")
- The war in the Middle East and its implications for Europe
- Rise of far right movements



Classificati

EU-NZ and EU-Australia FTAs



New Zealand FTA: European Commission

New Zealand is a key **partner** for us in the **Indo-Pacific region**, and this free trade agreement will bring us even **closer** together. – Commission President Von der Leyen

At a time of **challenging geopolitical shifts**, ambitious win-win **trade deals with reliable global partners** are worth more than ever. - Trade Commissioner Dombrovskis

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NZ FTA: European Parliament

Today is a **good day for the EU and global rule-based trade**. Our vote is a very clear signal of our commitment to negotiating new EU free trade agreements, of which we have seen too few in this parliamentary term. While we live at different ends of the world, the EU and New Zealand are close, trusted, **reliable and like-minded partners**. Together, we are **driving global rules-based trade forward** against the backdrop of a worldwide wave of protectionism and isolationism. EP Rapporteur Daniel Caspary

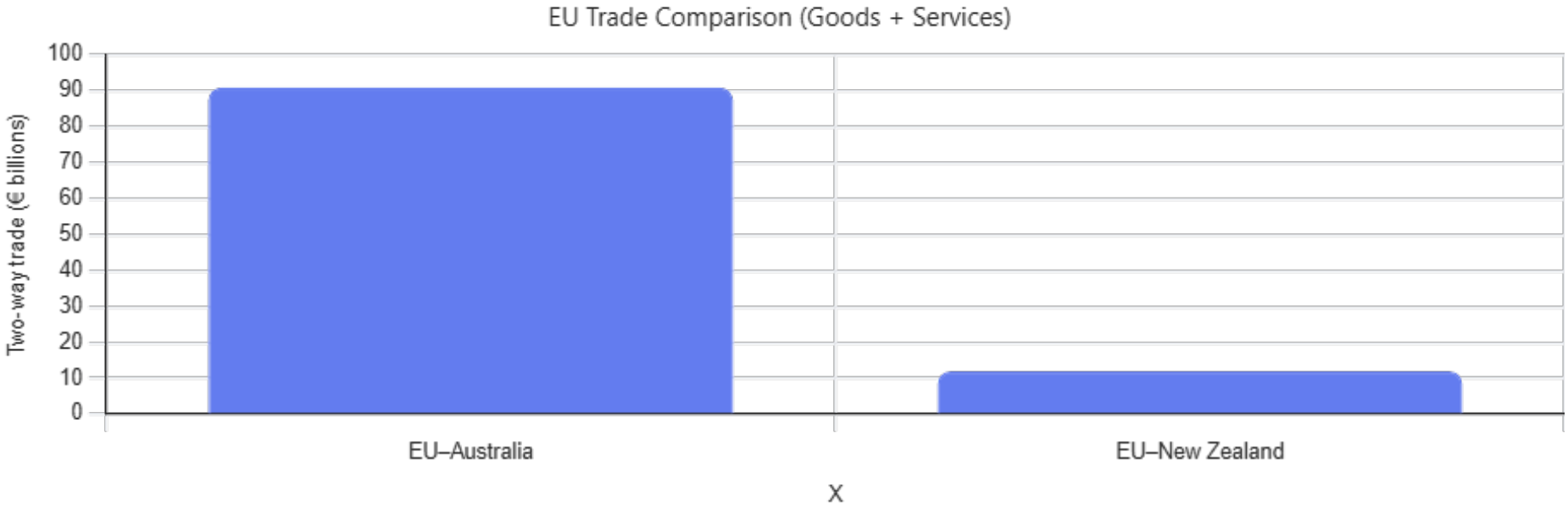
Big success because in this **global world of fragmentation, we managed to agree on the most <u>progressive and sustainable</u> trade agreement** by the European Union ever. – EP INTA Committee Chair Bernd Lange

What about Australia?

- Geopolitics
- But also:
- Economic considerations
- Strategic considerations



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Sustainability Innovations – New Zealand and Australia Compared

Legal enforceability of trade and sustainable development chapter through general dispute settlement mechanism of FTA	Binding commitments on climate and labour Cooperation + monitoring mechanisms but not enforceable
• Paris Agreement included as essential element, and possibility to use withdrawal of preferences as last resort in case of serious violations	• …each Party shall effectively implement the UNFCCC and the Paris Agreement, including commitments with regard to its Nationally Determined Contributions. The commitment to effectively implement the Paris Agreement includes the obligation to refrain from any act or omission which materially defeats the object and purpose of the Paris Agreement. (ARTICLE 18.6)

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A security explanation

- Security and Defence Partnership announced same day as Australia FTA
- Acknowledged link between Europe's security and Indo-Pacific and includes:
- Moving from shared values and interests to practical cooperation;
- Crisis management and Common Security and Defence Policy missions and operations, including exercises, training and education;
- Enhancing cooperation on maritime security, cyber security, countering hybrid threats and foreign information manipulation, interference and disruptive technologies
- Exchanges on situational awareness
- Supporting capacity building for Indo-Pacific partners



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Australia and NZ FTAs: a conclusion

- Exogenous geopolitical changes have affected the timing and created inducements
- The European Commission's 'geopolitical turn' in trade policy, has been slow and modest
- Both agreements have been justified and rationalised on the basis of their geopolitical symbolic value
- NZ also about sustainability but…

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Countries
- Europe
- New Zealand

PRESS RELEASE / 29 SEPTEMBER 2026

New Zealand faces its first climate complaint under EU trade rules

UTRECHT / WELLINGTON, 29 September 2026 /30 September in Aotearoa New Zealand

Both ENDS, a Dutch environmental justice organisation, has lodged a formal complaint with the European Commission arguing that New Zealand has broken the climate promises it made in its free trade agreement with the European Union. It is the first complaint on environmental and climate grounds under the Commission's Single Entry Point, the mechanism that lets civil society ask the EU to enforce the sustainability commitments in its trade agreements.

In the two years since the agreement came into force, the New Zealand government has passed a law that shut down a climate case its Supreme Court had cleared for trial, reopened its waters to offshore oil and gas exploration, lowered its 2050 methane target, and removed the legal requirement that its carbon

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Germany and the Pacific









Germany and the Pacific

- German colonial engagement
  - Flag followed trade: traders J.C. Godeffroy & Sohn first to arrive in 1855, soon followed by others
  - German resistance to formal colonial control soon gave way, with first protectorate (*Schutzgebiet*) established in northeastern New Guinea and Bismarck Archipelago (1884), and subsequently elsewhere in the Pacific
  - Pacific territories lost and commercial and economic interests dismembered in the first months of WWI
- German–Pacific relations non-existent through to the 1960s
  - Two factors behind 1960s re-engagement: (i) Following Willy Brandt's *Neue Ostpolitik* (1969), constraints on West Germany's external action were eased; and (ii) Independence processes playing out in Pacific
- In practice, from early 1970s, relations were handed over to EU to be conducted under Lomé (1975) and successor conventions

Diplomatic Relations of Germany with the Pacific Island States

	Independence	Diplomatic Relations Established
Federated States of Micronesia	10 May 1979	21 April 1992
Fiji	10 October 1970	1 August 1973
Kiribati	12 July 1979	1 July 1980
Marshall Islands	1 May 1979 (self-government)	23 September 1991
Nauru	31 January 1968	20 September 1984
Palau	1 January 1981	11 November 1997
PNG	16 September 1975	16 September 1976
Samoa	1 January 1962	18 May 1972 (DDR 20 October 1988)
Solomon Islands	7 July 1978	11 July 1978
Tonga	4 June 1970	1 May 1976
Tuvalu	1 October 1978	26 June 1979
Vanuatu	30 July 1980	22 April 1981 (DDR 9 October 1986)

Source: https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/de/service/laender

Germany and the Pacific

- *Zeitenwende* (?) over the last decade driven by rising geopolitical and geostrategic interest in Indo-Pacific
  - Became Dialogue Partner to Pacific Islands Forum in 2016
  - Increased engagement with Pacific Island states in international fora, particularly on issues of climate change
  - Publication of Indopazifik Leitlinien (Policy Guidelines on the Indo-Pacific) in 2022
  - Increased diplomatic engagement:
    - Annalena Baerbock's visits to Palau (2022) and Fiji (2024) – first by German Foreign Minister in 120 years
    - Establishment of position of Special Envoy for the Pacific Island States in 2022
    - High level visits by other government ministers and representatives
    - Joined Partners in the Blue Pacific initiative in 2022 – the only EU Member State to do so
    - Opened new embassy in Suva in 2023 – the first since the closure of the Port Moresby embassy in 1999



Fijian Prime Minister Sitiveni Rabuka and Special Envoy for the Pacific Island States (now Ambassador to Australia) Beate Grzeski opening the Germany Embassy in Suva, 19 August 2023



The project

- Part of a wider project examining German engagement in the Pacific Island space
- Motivation: apparent *Zeitenwende* in German relations with Pacific Island states
- First step: Examining news media representations of Germany
- Media research also a testbed for leveraging digital methodologies
  - Endeavouring to overcome limitations of manual methods

> *This is not just a normal trip … but this is, kind of, a new chapter in our relations between Germany, the European Union and the Pacific Island states*
>
> Speech in Fiji by Foreign Minister (2021–2025) Annalena Baerbock (Wise, 2024)

In Confidence

Thank you!

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