



“Forth and Back: New Zealand Diaspora to and Return from the EU: A Preliminary Report”

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NCRE Pilot Study on Return Migration of NZ citizens from the EU

- Deviation from usual focus of NZ migration to Australia & UK
- 20 in-depth interviews conducted with NZ returnees; minimum 12 months in EU
- Report to present preliminary findings on interviews undertaken and literature review
- Paper limitations

NZ-EU Diaspora -Objectives

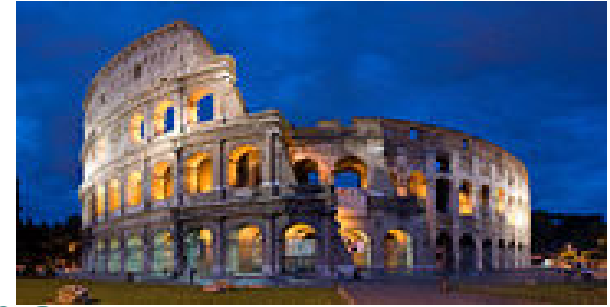


- To understand significance of EU to migration tradition of NZ citizens
- To find out the reasons and motivations for migration to the EU and return to New Zealand
- To situate NZ migration experience within the wider international migration framework

20,000 = number of New Zealand return migrants per year

450,000 = EU visitors to New Zealand in 2005

15% of New Zealand's total exports = bought by EU (2nd largest market)



NZ-EU Diaspora- Preliminary Findings

1. Largely economic focus of available theoretical approaches VS largely non-economic focus of respondents' motivations to move to the EU
2. Existing literature focus on long-term migration and return migration as determined by success or failure in host society. However, NZ-EU migration fixed and short-term.
3. Available literature helps explain reintegration process and links with host societies. However, departure and return stages are not accounted for.
4. NZ-EU return migration and intrinsic link between migration, culture and identity. Reconceptualisation of return migration to account for diversity of returnees.

NZ-EU Diaspora - Statistics

- 14 females, 6 males
- 15% uni exchange students
- 20% high school students
- 95% NZ born/tertiary quals.
- France, Ireland, Germany, Netherlands, Italy, Belgium
- Working Holiday Schemes
“help increase contact and understanding. They are a very sound investment for the future”. Ambassador Griffiths.



NZ-EU Diaspora – Impressions

- “it was good for me to go outside of my comfort zone”
- The French “wear stripy shirts and bike around with baguettes on their backs”
- “the Dutch are very civilised people”
- “the public transport system in NZ is abysmal compared to that of Germany”



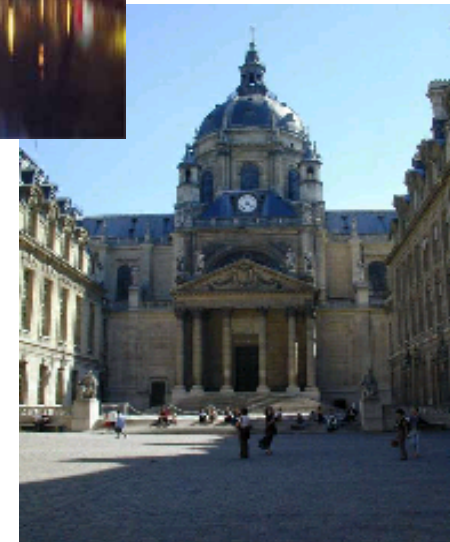
NZ-EU Diaspora - Experiences

- “transformed the orientation of my life”
- “world class exhibitions and the museums, art galleries”
- “the only NZ’er in 100 sq. miles so I was very unique”
- “its all about language because once you get the language, you really know the people”



NZ-EU Diaspora – Work/Study

- “they still call their teachers Master which we stopped a 100 years ago”
- “the cathedral just blew me away so much that I joined the chorale”
- “the infrastructure and resources...was basically without parallel”



NZ-EU Diaspora – Returning home

- “foreigner in own country”
- “being able to come back here and say I can cook French cuisine...great”
- being “able to say I have spent this time...in a totally different culture...is a strong argument that I can handle change and difference”



NZ-EU Diaspora – Importance

- The NZ-EU connection – historical, democracy, human rights, trade, climate change, knowledge, aid,
- Returned Migrant – valuable human capital but 80% may not reside permanently in NZ
- Future Study – how to retain & utilize this crucial resource?

