

Peace Index – December 2016

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(N=600 – 500 Jews, 100 Arabs)

2-3/12/2016

1. What is your position on conducting peace negotiations between Israel and the Palestinian Authority?

	% Jews	% Arabs	% General Public
Strongly in favor	24.2	50.2	28.5
Moderately in favor	36.9	20.2	34.1
Moderately opposed	15.9	7.6	14.5
Strongly opposed	15.3	16.2	15.4
Don't know/Decline to answer	7.7	5.8	7.4
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0

2. Do you believe or not believe that negotiations between Israel and the Palestinian Authority will lead in the coming years to peace between Israel and the Palestinians?

	% Jews	% Arabs	% General Public
Strongly believe	5.1	11.4	6.1
Moderately believe	23.0	30.3	24.2
Moderately do not believe	35.4	10.8	31.3
Do not believe at all	34.0	46.1	36.0
Don't know/Decline to answer	2.6	1.4	2.4
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0

3. With the start of 2017, do you feel optimistic or pessimistic about your personal future?

	% Jews	% Arabs	% General Public
Very optimistic	20.7	47.9	25.2
Moderately optimistic	49.2	28.8	45.8
Neither optimistic nor pessimistic	15.9	12.1	15.3
Moderately pessimistic	8.9	5.4	8.3
Very pessimistic	3.4	3.9	3.5
Don't know/Decline to answer	1.9	1.9	1.9
Total	100	100	100

4. And what about Israel's future?

	% Jews	% Arabs	% General Public
Very optimistic	17.7	30.3	19.8
Moderately optimistic	31.8	17.4	29.4
Neither optimistic nor pessimistic	20.0	17.8	19.7
Moderately pessimistic	19.7	10.1	18.1
Very pessimistic	8.3	16.8	9.8
Don't know/Decline to answer	2.5	7.5	3.3
Total	100	100	100

5. In general, how do you view the behavior toward Israel of outgoing U.S. president Barack Obama during his tenure?

	% Jews	% Arabs	% General Public
Very friendly	5.5	39.0	11.0
Moderately friendly	16.7	25.3	18.1
Neutral	17.3	13.2	16.6
Moderately unfriendly	29.4	9.1	26.0
Not friendly at all	27.5	1.8	23.3
Don't know/Decline to answer	3.6	11.6	4.9
Total	100	100	100

6. In your opinion, did the condemnatory UN Security Council resolution on Israeli settlement construction in the territories stem mainly from hostility toward Israel or from a principled position on the issue in keeping with international law?

	% Jews	% Arabs	% General Public
Mainly from hostility toward Israel	52.9	14.5	46.5
Mainly from a principled position on the issue in keeping with international law	28.5	52.2	32.4
From both of those to the same degree	8.9	4.9	8.3
From neither of those	0.8	8.2	2.0
Don't know/Decline to answer	8.9	20.2	10.8
Total	100	100	100

7. From what, in your opinion, did the U.S. administration's unusual abstention in this case, instead of vetoing the resolution, stem—mainly from the poor relations between Prime Minister Netanyahu and President Obama or from a principled position on the issue?

	% Jews	% Arabs	% General Public
Mainly from the poor relations between Prime Minister Netanyahu and President Obama	44.7	20.8	40.7
Mainly from a principled position on the issue	33.4	40.1	34.5
From both of those to the same degree	8.9	10.7	9.2
From neither of those	4.2	6.8	4.6
Don't know/Decline to answer	8.9	21.6	11.0
Total	100	100	100

8. In the wake of the Security Council's condemnatory resolution, in your opinion should or should not Israel cease the construction in the territories?

	% Jews	% Arabs	% General Public
I'm sure it should not	35.8	11.5	31.8
I think it should not	26.3	8.1	23.3
I think it should	13.6	9.2	12.9
I'm sure it should	15.6	61.8	23.3
Don't know/Decline to answer	8.6	9.4	8.8
Total	100	100	100

9. Prime Minister Netanyahu reacted to the Security Council resolution with diplomatic measures that were meant to express protest toward the countries that voted in favor of it. Among other things, he summoned the U.S. ambassador to Israel for a clarification, canceled planned meetings and planned visits of leaders of those countries, and so on. In your assessment, was Netanyahu's response too moderate, reasonable, or too extreme?

	% Jews	% Arabs	% General Public
Too moderate	10.2	17.2	11.3
Reasonable	46.7	10.6	40.7
Too extreme	35.1	55.4	38.4
Don't know/Decline to answer	8.0	16.8	9.5
Total	100	100	100

10. In his speech last week U.S. secretary of state Kerry said that if the two-state solution is not implemented and one state emerges between the Jordan and the sea, it will be either Jewish or democratic but cannot be both Jewish and democratic. In your opinion, is this statement right?

	% Jews	% Arabs	% General Public
Very right	14.6	45.2	19.6
Moderately right	17.0	10.1	15.9
Not so right	20.3	6.3	18.0
Not right at all	37.5	30.8	36.4
Don't know/Decline to answer	10.7	7.7	10.2
Total	100	100	100

11. Minister Tzahi Hanegbi of the Likud Party said a few days ago that his party opposes a unilateral annexation of Judea and Samaria and that such a step would be a "disaster." Do you agree or disagree with his opinion on the annexation issue?

	% Jews	% Arabs	% General Public
Strongly agree	25.1	40.1	27.6
Moderately agree	25.6	9.0	22.9
Don't agree so much	15.7	11.1	14.9
Don't agree at all	16.0	22.4	17.1
Don't know/Decline to answer	17.6	17.4	17.5
Total	100	100	100

12. In your opinion, what will be the attitude toward Israel of the incoming president, Donald Trump?

	% Jews	% Arabs	% General Public
Very friendly	25.3	54.3	30.1
Moderately friendly	43.4	18.6	39.3
Neutral	12.2	5.8	11.1
Moderately unfriendly	1.5	3.7	1.9
Not friendly at all	1.1	3.2	1.5
Don't know/Decline to answer	16.5	14.3	16.1
Total	100	100	100

13. Already before taking office as president of the U.S., President-elect Donald Trump has announced that he will move the U.S. embassy to Jerusalem. All previous U.S. administrations have refrained from doing so to avoid sparking a severe negative reaction in the Arab and Muslim world. After he takes office, in your opinion will Trump uphold or not uphold his promise to move the embassy to Jerusalem?

	% Jews	% Arabs	% General Public
I'm sure he will uphold his promise to move the U.S. embassy to Jerusalem	11.3	15.7	12.0
I think he will uphold it	38.5	16.3	34.8
I think he will not uphold it	27.8	22.0	26.8
I'm sure he will not uphold it	7.1	23.9	9.9
Don't know/Decline to answer	15.3	22.2	16.5
Total	100	100	100

14. In your opinion, under Trump's administration will Israel be able to keep building in the settlements?

	% Jews	% Arabs	% General Public
I'm sure it will be	16.7	60.1	23.9
I think it will be	54.4	20.1	48.7
I think it will not be	14.6	1.9	12.5
I'm sure it will not be	2.6	9.1	3.7
Don't know/Decline to answer	11.7	8.8	11.3
Total	100	100	100

15. In an article he recent published, the writer A. B. Yehoshua maintained that the two-states-for-two-peoples solution is not going to be implemented. He therefore proposed that Israel give the Palestinians living in the West Bank territories under Israeli control the status of residents, like the status of the Arabs living in East Jerusalem, so as to improve their lives and gradually make them part of Israel. Do you support or oppose this idea?

	% Jews	% Arabs	% General Public
Strongly support	3.8	32.4	8.6
Moderately support	21.9	5.5	19.2
Moderately oppose	26.8	10.7	24.1
Strongly oppose	35.7	33.5	35.3
Don't know/Decline to answer	11.8	17.9	12.8
Total	100	100	100

16. And what, in your opinion, is the general attitude toward Israel of Russia's President Putin?

	% Jews	% Arabs	% General Public
Very friendly	2.4	29.2	6.8
Moderately friendly	16.7	25.4	18.1
Neutral	41.2	20.3	37.7
Moderately unfriendly	18.4	2.3	15.8
Not at all friendly	7.9	3.9	7.2
Don't know/Decline to answer	13.4	18.9	14.3
Total	100	100	100

17. Later in the week a ruling will be given in the case of the soldier Elor Azarya, who shot a wounded terrorist. In your opinion, was putting him on trial justified or unjustified?

	% Jews	% Arabs	% General Public
Not at all justified	42.5	22.2	39.1
Moderately unjustified	17.0	0.4	14.3
Moderately justified	19.2	6.6	17.2
Very justified	15.2	41.1	19.5
Don't know/Decline to answer	6.1	29.6	10.0
Total	100	100	100

18. Even before the ruling, in your opinion has the trial of Elor Azarya been conducted fairly or unfairly?

	% Jews	% Arabs	General Public
It has been conducted very fairly	10.1	18.2	11.5
It has been conducted moderately fairly	20.0	13.1	18.8
It has not been conducted so fairly	22.6	3.1	19.4
It has not been conducted fairly at all	34.2	43.1	35.6
Don't know/Decline to answer	13.1	22.5	14.7
Total	100	100	100

The Peace Index is a project of the Evens Program for Mediation and Conflict Resolution at Tel Aviv University and the Guttman Center for Public Opinion and Policy Research of the Israel Democracy Institute. This month's survey was conducted by telephone on January 2-3, 2017, by the Midgam Research Institute. The survey included 600 respondents (500 Jews, 100 Arabs), who constitute a representative national sample of the adult population aged 18 and over. The maximum measurement error for the entire sample is $\pm 4.1\%$ at a confidence level of 95%. Statistical processing was done by Ms. Yasmin Alkalay. <http://www.peaceindex.org>