

The Peace Index – February 2016

(N=600)

28/2-1/3/2016

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

	% Jews	% Arabs	% General Public
Strongly in favor	21.9	61.8	28.6
Moderately in favor	35.1	34.6	35.0
Moderately opposed	21.8	2.1	18.5
Strongly opposed	15.4	1.5	13.1
Don't know/Decline to answer	5.8	0	4.8
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	3.2	18.7	5.8
Moderately believe	16.0	43.4	20.6
Moderately do not believe	34.7	15.4	31.5
Do not believe at all	44.5	19.2	40.3
Don't know/Decline to answer	1.6	3.3	1.9
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0

3. To what extent do you fear that you or one of the people who are important to you will be harmed in the current wave of terror attacks?

	% Jews	% Arabs	% General Public
Greatly fear	33.1	41.0	34.4
Moderately fear	32.8	32.0	32.7
Don't fear so much	23.6	13.8	22.0
Don't fear at all	9.2	11.5	9.6
Don't know/Decline to answer	1.3	1.6	1.4
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0

4. Senior IDF officers including the head of Military Intelligence, General Herzi Halevi, recently recommended to the political echelon that Israel ease economic conditions in the Gaza Strip and ease the Palestinians' lives in the West Bank/Judea and Samaria. According to these officers, if the Palestinians have something to lose and something to hope for, there is a chance that the current wave of terror attacks will subside. Does this recommendation seem right to you or not right?

	% Jews	% Arabs	% General Public
Very right	16.4	10.0	15.4
Moderately right	29.9	46.4	32.6
Not so right	24.1	16.8	22.9
Not right at all	24.9	15.0	23.3
Don't know/Decline to answer	4.7	11.8	5.8
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0

5. Former foreign minister Avigdor Lieberman says again that despite Netanyahu's tough words, his policy toward the Palestinians actually is not tough enough, and as a result the current terror wave continues at high intensity. Do you agree or disagree with this criticism of Lieberman's?

	% Jews	% Arabs	% General Public
Strongly agree	24.3	6.1	21.3
Moderately agree	31.4	13.3	28.4
Don't agree so much	17.8	27.9	19.5
Don't agree at all	21.9	41.3	25.2
Don't know/Decline to answer	4.6	11.3	5.7
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0

6. IDF Chief of Staff Eisenkot said recently that restraint should be exercised in using military force against the current terror wave and that he would not want a soldier to empty a cartridge at a 13-year-old girl with scissors. Do you agree or disagree with this position of the chief of staff's?

	% Jews	% Arabs	% General Public
Strongly agree	25.6	20.8	24.8
Moderately agree	21.9	25.8	22.6
Don't agree so much	21.1	13.8	19.9
Don't agree at all	29.2	15.3	26.9
Don't know/Decline to answer	2.2	24.3	5.9
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0

7. Police Commissioner Alsheikh said recently that the grief of Palestinians over their children killed in the current terror wave cannot be compared with the grief of Israeli families who have lost their children. The reason is that the Palestinians sanctify death, whereas we sanctify life. Do you agree or disagree with these words of the police commissioner?

	% Jews
Strongly agree	57.4
Moderately agree	19.3
Don't agree so much	13.3
Don't agree at all	8.1
Don't know/Decline to answer	2.0
Total	100.0

8. In your opinion, are the ways in which the IDF is now operating to stop the terror wave:

	% Jews	% Arabs	% General Public
Very moral	57.1	4.3	48.3
Moderately moral	32.5	1.4	27.3
Not so moral	6.1	29.8	10.0
Not moral at all	1.4	53.2	10.1
Don't know/Decline to answer	2.9	11.2	4.3
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0

9. And in your opinion, is the world's criticism of Israel's current conduct in the fight against terror:

	% Jews	% Arabs	% General Public
Not at all justified	71.8	24.4	63.9
Not so justified	17.8	4.9	15.7
Moderately justified	6.0	9.2	6.5
Very justified	3.2	42.9	9.8
Don't know/Decline to answer	1.2	18.6	4.1
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0

10. Do you agree or disagree with the opinion that Jerusalem is actually already divided into two cities: the eastern city and the western city?

	% Jews	% Arabs	% General Public
Totally agree	24.8	30.3	25.7
Moderately agree	35.8	16.5	32.6
Don't agree so much	18.0	19.3	18.2
Totally disagree	15.3	23.8	16.8
Don't know/Decline to answer	6.2	10.1	6.8
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0

11. Some claim that the large number of Arabs from East Jerusalem who are involved in the terror attacks is related to the fact that the state of Israel and the City of Jerusalem discriminate against East Jerusalem compared to West Jerusalem—for example, in the areas of health, education, and other services. In your opinion, is there or is there not a connection between the authorities' treatment of East Jerusalem and the high involvement of its residents in the terror attacks against Jews?

	% Jews	% Arabs	% General Public
I'm sure there is a connection	13.9	28.3	16.3
I think there is a connection	24.3	23.5	24.1
I think there is no connection	25.7	13.6	23.7
I'm sure there is no connection	30.9	10.3	27.4
Don't know/Decline to answer	5.3	24.3	8.5
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0

12. The U.S. presidential elections are nearing their climax. In your opinion, which of the two Democratic candidates for president is preferable from Israel's standpoint—Hillary Clinton or Bernie Sanders? (In Arabic: which of the two Democratic candidates for president is more pro Israel?)

	% Jews	% Arabs	% General Public
Clinton	40.5	30.9	38.9
Sanders	16.5	1.7	14.0
Both to the same extent	6.2	35.4	11.1
Neither of them	10.1	19.5	11.7
Don't know/Decline to answer	26.7	12.5	24.3
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0

13. Businessman Donald Trump is currently the leading presidential candidate of the Republican Party. From what you know, is Trump's stance toward Israel:

	% Jews	% Arabs	% General Public
Not friendly at all	3.0	4.3	3.2
Not so friendly	10.9	6.7	10.2
Moderately friendly	35.7	16.3	32.5
Very friendly	25.2	28.6	25.8
Don't know/Decline to answer	25.2	44.1	28.3
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0

14. And from which party, in your opinion, will a president be better for Israel: from the Democratic Party or from the Republican Party? (In Arabic: And from which party, in your opinion, will a president be more pro Israel?)

	% Jews	% Arabs	% General Public
Democratic	27.9	37.1	29.4
Republican	33.6	23.2	31.8
There is no difference	12.7	29.6	15.5
Don't know/Decline to answer	25.8	10.1	23.2
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0

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 from February 28 to March 1, 2016, by the Midgam Research Institute. The survey included 600 respondents, who constitute a representative national sample of the adult population aged 18 and over. The maximum sampling 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>