

The Peace Index – September 2015

(N=600)

6-8/10/2015

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

	% Jews	% Arabs	% General Public
Strongly in favor	25.2	61.6	31.3
Moderately in favor	32.4	12.2	29.0
Moderately opposed	16.1	3.7	14.0
Strongly opposed	19.2	9.3	17.6
Don't know/Decline to answer	7.0	13.2	8.1
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	5.7	7.5	6.0
Moderately believe	17.1	25.7	18.5
Moderately do not believe	28.2	17.7	26.4
Do not believe at all	46.0	40.4	45.1
Don't know/Decline to answer	3.0	8.8	4.0
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0

3. In your opinion, how long can the current state of Israeli-Palestinian relations continue, without a peace agreement being reached, before a Third Intifada erupts?

	% Jews	% Arabs	% General Public
A short time, up to a year	44.5	26.1	41.5
A medium time, two or three years	20.3	4.9	17.7
A long time, more than three years	26.0	47.8	29.6
Don't know/Decline to answer	9.2	21.2	11.2
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0

4. What, in your opinion, are the chances that if a peace settlement based on the two-state formula is not reached in the near future, the Palestinian leaders will not just threaten to dissolve the Palestinian Authority but actually do so, leaving Israel with the responsibility for governing the Palestinian population of the West Bank?

	% Jews	% Arabs	% General Public
Very low chances	41.1	53.0	43.1
Moderately low chances	32.3	18.3	29.9
Moderately high chances	12.9	10.8	12.6
Very high chances	6.1	2.1	5.4
Don't know/Decline to answer	7.6	15.9	9.0
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0

5. In your opinion, will the international community keep avoiding an intervention even if the current Israeli-Palestinian state of affairs continues, or is a substantial international intervention, aimed at pushing the sides to sign an agreement, likely in the foreseeable future?

	% Jews	% Arabs	% General Public
It will keep avoiding an intervention even if the current state of affairs does not change	48.3	55.0	49.4
A bold intervention is likely in the foreseeable future	41.0	28.2	38.8
Don't know/Decline to answer	10.7	16.8	11.8
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0

6. In his recent speech to the United Nations General Assembly, Netanyahu again expressed support for the idea of two states for two peoples. In your opinion, is Netanyahu genuinely committed and interested in the two-states-for-two-peoples solution?

	% Jews	% Arabs	% General Public
Yes, this is a genuine commitment on Netanyahu's part	29.9	8.0	26.3
No, this is not a genuine commitment on Netanyahu's part	59.2	72.5	61.5
Don't know/Decline to answer	10.8	19.5	12.3
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0

7. To what extent do you agree or disagree with the statement that the idea of two states for two peoples is dead?

	% Jews	% Arabs	% General Public
Strongly agree	22.8	34.3	24.7
Moderately agree	23.3	22.8	23.2
Don't agree so much	29.4	10.6	26.3
Don't agree at all	20.6	24.5	21.3
Don't know/Decline to answer	3.9	7.7	4.6
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0

8. Which of the following two possibilities will better ensure, in your opinion, the future of the state of Israel?

	% Jews	% Arabs	% General Public
Annexing the territories and establishing one state under Israeli rule on all of the land	36.3	22.0	34.0
Dividing the land and establishing an independent Palestinian state beside Israel	46.3	64.0	49.2
Don't know/Decline to answer	17.4	14.0	16.8
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0

9. "If the territories are annexed and a single state is established under Israeli rule, there will be no choice but to give the Palestinians full and equal civil rights." What is your opinion on this claim?

	% Jews	% Arabs	% General Public
Definitely agree	19.8	31.9	21.8
Moderately agree	17.1	21.0	17.7
Don't agree so much	17.1	14.0	16.6
Don't agree at all	42.5	23.6	39.4
Don't know/Decline to answer	3.4	9.5	4.4
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0

10. What, in your opinion, are the chances that sometime in the future Jews and Arabs will be able to live in one state as citizens with equal rights who recognize each other's rights?

	% Jews	% Arabs	% General Public
Very low chances	52.7	43.8	51.2
Moderately low chances	34.2	24.3	32.6
Moderately high chances	6.8	7.1	6.9
Very high chances	2.9	15.6	5.0
Don't know/Decline to answer	3.3	9.1	4.3
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0

11. Some claim that because of the extensive Israeli building in the territories and the growth of the settlements, there is no possibility of evacuating most of the Israelis from Judea and Samaria and therefore any agreement that is signed, if it is signed, will have to take into account the fact that at least the large settlement blocs will remain under Israeli sovereignty. What is your opinion on this claim?

	% Jews	% Arabs	% General Public
Strongly agree	40.4	26.6	38.1
Moderately agree	27.2	15.6	25.3
Moderately disagree	12.0	9.4	11.6
Don't agree at all	11.8	27.8	14.5
Don't know/Decline to answer	8.6	20.5	10.6
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0

12. Recently Russian president Putin announced that Russia will help Assad remain in power and fight together with him against ISIS and the other radical Islamic forces. From Israel's standpoint, is it desirable or undesirable that Assad should remain in power?

	% Jews	% Arabs	% General Public
Very desirable	15.4	25.6	17.1
Moderately desirable	33.3	3.7	28.4
Not so desirable	12.4	8.2	11.7
Not desirable at all	14.2	25.8	16.2
Don't know/Refuse to answer	24.6	36.7	26.6
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0

13. And what are the chances that with the Russians' help, and apparently also in cooperation with the Iranians, Assad will succeed in restoring his rule to Syria so that it will return to functioning normally as a state?

	% Jews	% Arabs	% General Public
Very low chances	20.6	16.2	19.9
Moderately low chances	35.4	7.7	30.8
Moderately high chances	25.9	9.9	23.3
Very high chances	5.7	38.2	11.1
Don't know/Refuse to answer	12.4	28.0	15.0
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0

14. Who, in your eyes, is a more impressive leader: U.S. president Obama or Russian president Putin?

	% Jews	% Arabs	% General Public
Obama	23.4	27.0	24.0
Putin	50.5	28.7	46.9
Neither/Both to the same extent (not read)	19.7	23.8	20.4
Don't know/Refuse to answer	6.4	20.5	8.7
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0

15. What is your opinion on the claim that in recent decades Israel has been too close and too dependent on the United States, and it is worth making an effort to draw politically close to Russia as well?

	% Jews	% Arabs	% General Public
Don't agree at all	23.3	20.1	22.8
Moderately disagree	20.3	7.0	18.1
Moderately agree	35.0	17.8	32.2
Strongly agree	12.1	21.5	13.7

Don't know/Refuse to answer	9.2	33.5	13.3
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0

16. How, in your opinion, will Israel's drawing closer to Russia, if it occurs, affect U.S.-Israeli relations?

	% Jews	% Arabs	% General Public
It will not affect the relations with the United States	26.5	46.4	29.8
It will improve the relations with the United States	11.6	10.9	11.5
It will damage the relations with the United States	50.1	21.9	45.4
Don't know/Refuse to answer	11.8	20.8	13.3
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0

17. In your opinion, which of the two—Russia or the United States—will be a more loyal and trustworthy ally for Israel?

	% Jews	% Arabs	% General Public
Russia	7.2	1.5	6.2
United States	77.9	71.3	76.8
Both to the same extent/Neither (not read)	9.0	15.1	10.0
Don't know/Refuse to answer	5.9	12.2	6.2
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0

18. What grade would you give the government for its handling of the security situation in Jerusalem, on a scale with 0 being failure and 5 meaning excellent?

	% Jews	% Arabs	% General Public
0 – failure	21.3	30.1	22.8
1	10.9	11.7	11.0
2	17.7	10.2	16.4
3	26.4	19.5	25.2
4	10.5	3.4	9.4
5 – excellent	10.4	5.4	9.6
Don't know/Refuse to answer	2.8	19.7	5.6
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0
Mean	2.26	1.63	2.17
Standard Deviation	1.61	1.60	1.62
Frequency	486	80	567

19. In your opinion, with the current state of affairs, should Jews be permitted or prohibited from praying on the Temple Mount?

	% Jews	% Arabs	% General Public
I am sure they should be permitted	30.0	1.9	25.3
I think they should be permitted	27.0	4.8	23.3
I think they should be prohibited	19.1	6.4	17.0
I am sure they should be prohibited	19.6	74.7	28.8
Don't know/Refuse to answer	4.3	12.2	5.6
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 on October 6-8, 2015, by the Midgam Research Institute. The survey included 600 respondents, who constitute a representative national sample of the adult population of Israel 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>

