National Security Index

Public Opinion Survey 2017 - 2018

Dr. Zipi Israeli
Are you more worried about the external/security threats to Israel or about the internal/social threats?

- 39% External/security threats
- 24% Internal/social threats
- 37% Worried about both threats equally
What is the gravest external threat to the State of Israel today?

- The northern arena (Iran, Syria, and Hezbollah): 31%
- Iran's nuclear capability: 21%
- Terrorist activities against Israeli citizens in Israel and abroad: 9%
- The Israeli-Palestinian conflict: 21%
- Hamas in the Gaza Strip: 13%
- Political isolation and the delegitimization of Israel: 5%
Will the State of Israel be capable of successfully contending with the following challenges?

- 85% War on two fronts simultaneously in the northern arena and in the Gaza Strip
- 83% Consecutive major terrorist attacks
- 71% Social polarization
- 66% Corruption in the government system
- 58% Reduced United States support for Israel
What value is most important to you?

- Peace: 34%
- State with a Jewish majority: 33%
- A democratic state (equal political rights for everyone): 15%
- Greater Israel: 19%

1988

Jewish Public Only
What value is most important to you?

- 17% Peace
- 18% A democratic state (equal political rights for everyone)
- 49% State with a Jewish majority
- 16% Greater Israel

*Jewish Public Only*
What is Israel’s best option in the Israeli-Palestinian conflict?

- **39%** Striving toward a permanent arrangement
- **18%** Annexation of the settlement blocs in Judea and Samaria to Israel
- **15%** Maintaining the status quo
- **11%** Annexation of all territories in Judea and Samaria to Israel

- Jewish Public Only
Which of the following internal tensions worries you the most?

- **41%** The tension between Arabs and Jews
- **21%** The tension between the religious and secular populations
- **20%** The tension between the right wing and the left wing
- **15%** The tension against the backdrop of socio-economic status
- **3%** The tension between ethnic groups

*Jewish Public Only*
This year, the State of Israel will celebrate the 70th anniversary of its founding. What was Israel’s greatest achievement?

- **35%**
  - Defending national security by building a strong military force

- **25%**
  - "The ingathering of the exiles"

- **10%**
  - Israel as a leading scientific and technological world power

- **13%**
  - Building a strong and stable economy

- **11%**
  - The democratic political culture

- **6%**
  - Building a welfare state
Considering the strengthening of Hezbollah, do you support or oppose the IDF taking a more offensive approach towards the organization in order to prevent it from strengthening further, even at the risk of starting a war?

- **34%** Oppose
- **66%** Support
What will be the implications of another failure in the political process between Israel and the Palestinians?

- **25%**: An intifada will break out
- **19%**: The international community will force Israel to end its control over the territories
- **10%**: Israel will be forced to take unilateral measures in the territory, such as annexing Maaleh Adumim
- **46%**: The status quo will continue
Ideas of unilaterally annexing territories in Judea and Samaria have been raised recently. What is your opinion?

- 24% I support the unilateral annexation of the settlement blocs
- 15% I support the unilateral annexation of all of the settlement areas
- 8% I support the unilateral annexation of all of the territories in Judea and Samaria
- 53% I oppose any unilateral annexation
How much confidence do you have in each of the following institutions?

- IDF: 90%
- Mossad: 86%
- Israel Security Agency: 82%
- Police: 51%
Do you support or oppose the solution of two states for two peoples?

55% Support

45% Oppose
Do you support the solution of two states for two peoples?

- 69% 2012
- 60% 2015
- 55% 2017

*Jewish Public Only*
Do you support or oppose the solution of two states for two peoples?

4% Oppose

96% Support

• Israeli Arab citizens

ANNUAL INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE
Do you support or oppose the solution of two states for two peoples?

Secular
- 72% Support
- 28% Oppose

Religious
- Support 20%
- Oppose 80%

• Jewish Public Only

INSS

ANNUAL INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE
Does the presence of Iran and of factions affiliated with Iran in Syria constitute a threat to Israel’s national security?

- 2% Does not pose a threat
- 13% Low threat
- 85% Grave threat

\*Jewish Public Only
Some claim that the top-ranking military echelon is restraining the government in relation to deploying military force and imposing restrictions on the Palestinian population.

55% Agree

45% Disagree
Is it normal and proper for the top-ranking military echelon to restrain the government?

34% No

66% Yes
How should the Hamas threat from the Gaza Strip be handled?

5%
Recognize Hamas’s dominance in the Gaza Strip and engage in direct dialogue with it

12%
Remove the blockade and significantly improve the living conditions of the population in the Gaza Strip

31%
Dismantle the military arm of the Hamas, even at the price of occupying the Gaza Strip

52%
Create deterrence by launching a military operation against the Hamas in the Gaza Strip

*Jewish Public Only*
The IDF has clear procedures about opening fire on terrorists during a terrorist attack. According to these procedures, a neutralized terrorist who no longer poses a threat should not be killed.

43% Disagree

57% Agree
How does the American Jewry contribute to Israel's national security?

- 38% Through advocacy for US support of Israel in the international arena
- 29% Through advocacy for US military support
- 23% Through philanthropy to Israeli initiatives
- 10% By supporting the struggle against BDS

*Jewish Public Only*
Which trend characterizes the relations between the Jewish communities in Israel and in the US?

- 21% The two communities are growing further apart
- 29% The two communities are growing closer
- 50% There is no change in the relations between the two communities

• Jewish Public Only

ANNUAL INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE
Why are these communities growing apart?

16%
A growing gap on perceptions relating to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict

14%
A growing gap on perceptions relating to liberal vs. conservative values

14%
Erosion of collective memory of the Holocaust and Israel's founding

56%
Israel's treatment of non-Orthodox Jews

• Jewish Public Only
How do you perceive the relationship between Israel and the American Jewry?

17%
The Jewish people have two equally important and large centers

83%
Israel is the center of the Jewish people