

# **American Foreign Policy**

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**A survey sponsored by  
University of Maryland Critical Issues Poll  
fielded by Nielsen Scarborough**

## **Survey Methodology**

The survey was conducted May 19-22, 2017 with a panel consisting of a probability-based representative sample. The panel was recruited by Nielsen Scarborough from its larger probability-based national panel, which was recruited by mail and telephone using a random sample of households. A total of 2,616 panelists completed the survey. Responses were weighted by age, gender, income, education, race, and geographic region using benchmarks from the US Census. The survey was also weighted by partisan identification. The margin of error is 2.08%

Note: These questions were fielded as part of a larger poll on foreign and domestic issues. Participants in this study were provided by Nielsen from Nielsen's sample of respondents.

## American Politics

First, we're going to ask you about American politics.

Q50. President Trump recently fired FBI Director James Comey. How do you feel about the president's action?

	<b>Rep</b>	<b>Dem</b>	<b>Ind</b>	<b>Total</b>
1. Approve	76%	8%	34%	40%
2. Disapprove	21	92	62	58
Refused	3	1	4	2

Q51. The U.S. Justice Department has decided to appoint former FBI Director Robert Mueller as a special counsel to investigate possible collusion between President Donald Trump's 2016 campaign team and Russia as well as alleged Russian interference in the U.S. election. Do you:

	<b>Rep</b>	<b>Dem</b>	<b>Ind</b>	<b>Total</b>
1. Approve	62%	87%	70%	74%
2. Disapprove	37	13	26	24
Refused	2	1	4	2

Q52. Reports indicate that President Trump shared with Russia some highly classified information. Based on what you have read or heard, how do you feel about the President's sharing such information?

	<b>Rep</b>	<b>Dem</b>	<b>Ind</b>	<b>Total</b>
1. Pleased	3%	<1	2%	2%
2. Not concerned	60	4	29	31
3. Somewhat concerned	21	14	28	19
4. Very concerned	15	81	38	48
Refused	1	0	3	1

## Middle East

Q8. Of the following Arab countries, which do you think is the closest U.S. ally?

	<b>Rep</b>	<b>Dem</b>	<b>Ind</b>	<b>Total</b>
1. Jordan	21%	19%	20%	20%
2. Egypt	10	11	16	11
3. Saudi Arabia	33	40	25	35

4. Qatar	3	2	2	2
5. Palestine	3	2	5	3
6. United Arab Emirates	12	10	12	11
7. Morocco	3	4	4	4
8. Tunisia	<1	<1	1	<1
9. Lebanon	2	1	1	1
10. Kuwait	9	8	9	9
Refused	5	3	5	4

Q9. President Trump has many issues to discuss with Middle Eastern leaders on his trip to the region. Which of the following should, in your opinion, be his **top two** priorities? Please select two?

*Percent selecting each option as one of the top two priorities*

	<b>Rep</b>	<b>Dem</b>	<b>Ind</b>	<b>Total</b>
Q9a. Fighting ISIS and similar militant groups	84%	66%	69%	74%
	<b>Rep</b>	<b>Dem</b>	<b>Ind</b>	<b>Total</b>
Q9b. Seeking resolution of Israeli-Palestinian conflict	17%	31%	25%	24%
	<b>Rep</b>	<b>Dem</b>	<b>Ind</b>	<b>Total</b>
Q9c. Seeking end to Syria conflict	37%	60%	39%	48%
	<b>Rep</b>	<b>Dem</b>	<b>Ind</b>	<b>Total</b>
Q9d. Seeking end to Yemen conflict	3%	8%	7%	6%
	<b>Rep</b>	<b>Dem</b>	<b>Ind</b>	<b>Total</b>
Q9e. Seeking coalition to confront Iranian power and influence	36%	12%	19%	23%
	<b>Rep</b>	<b>Dem</b>	<b>Ind</b>	<b>Total</b>
Q9f. Seeking favorable trade deals for U.S.	18%	16%	27%	18%
	<b>Rep</b>	<b>Dem</b>	<b>Ind</b>	<b>Total</b>
Q9g. Other	5%	6%	11%	6%

Q10. One stated aim of President Trump's Middle East trip is to revive Israeli-Palestinian peace diplomacy. In his efforts, do you believe Trump should:

	<b>Rep</b>	<b>Dem</b>	<b>Ind</b>	<b>Total</b>
1. Lean toward Israel	57%	16%	22%	34%
2. Lean toward the Palestinians	1	9	6	5
3. Lean toward neither side	41	74	70	60
Refused	1	1	2	1

Q11. On a scale of 1-4, what is your impression of the following countries:

Q11a. Israel

	<b>Rep</b>	<b>Dem</b>	<b>Ind</b>	<b>Total</b>
1. Very favorable	59%	27%	25%	40%
2. Somewhat favorable	22	39	39	32
3. Somewhat unfavorable	9	21	18	16
4. Very unfavorable	5	9	7	7
Refused	5	4	11	6

Q11c. Saudi Arabia

	<b>Rep</b>	<b>Dem</b>	<b>Ind</b>	<b>Total</b>
1. Very favorable	9%	9%	7%	9%
2. Somewhat favorable	43	35	33	38
3. Somewhat unfavorable	27	34	28	31
4. Very unfavorable	13	17	19	15
Refused	7	6	14	7

Q11d. Egypt

	<b>Rep</b>	<b>Dem</b>	<b>Ind</b>	<b>Total</b>
1. Very favorable	9%	15%	9%	12%
2. Somewhat favorable	45	40	44	43
3. Somewhat unfavorable	31	32	26	31
4. Very unfavorable	8	8	11	8
Refused	7	5	12	7

Q11e. Jordan

	<b>Rep</b>	<b>Dem</b>	<b>Ind</b>	<b>Total</b>
1. Very favorable	18%	21%	14%	19%
2. Somewhat favorable	43	47	45	45
3. Somewhat unfavorable	24	21	21	22
4. Very unfavorable	7	5	7	6
Refused	8	6	14	8

Q53. It's been more than five weeks since the United States fired missiles at a Syrian air force base. What's your impression of the conflict in Syria since?

	<b>Rep</b>	<b>Dem</b>	<b>Ind</b>	<b>Total</b>
1. Changed for the better	28%	5%	7%	15%
2. Changed for the worse	6	17	11	12
3. Has not changed	64	77	79	72
Refused	2	1	3	1

Q15. In the conflict between Israel and the Palestinians, which of the following outcomes would you most prefer?

	<b>Rep</b>	<b>Dem</b>	<b>Ind</b>	<b>Total</b>
1. Maintain the occupation of the territories Israel captured in 1967 but allow the Palestinians to inhabit them indefinitely.	22%	8%	15%	15%
2. Annexation without equal citizenship: Israel would annex the Palestinian Territories, but keep a majority-Jewish state by restricting the citizenship rights of Palestinians.	13	4	7	8
3. A one-state solution: A single democratic state in which both Jews and Palestinians are full and equal citizens, covering all of what is now Israel and the Palestinian Territories.	30	36	36	34
4. A two-state solution, Israel and a Palestinian state side by side. The Palestinian state should be established on the territories that Israel has occupied since 1967.	28	48	35	38

Refused	7	5	7	6
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Q16. If a two-state solution to the conflict between Israel and the Palestinians were not possible, meaning the West Bank and the Gaza Strip had to be under Israeli control indefinitely, which of the following would be closer to your view?

	<b>Rep</b>	<b>Dem</b>	<b>Ind</b>	<b>Total</b>
1. I would favor Israel's democracy more than its Jewishness: I would support a single democratic state in which Arabs and Jews would be equal, even if that meant Israel would no longer be a politically Jewish state.	51%	78%	65%	65%
2. I would favor the Jewishness of Israel more than its democracy: I would support preserving Israel as a politically Jewish state, even if that meant that a majority of the people living under its authority would not have full citizenship and rights.	43	17	26	29
Refused	7	5	9	6