U.S.-Japan Opinion Survey
2017

January 8, 2018

Brookings Institution
Survey Methodology (Japan)

The survey was carried out October 21 – November 5, 2017 in Japan. The sample is 1,000 among the target population of 18 years of age or older. The survey was fielded in 50 regions of Japan, with 20 samples from each region collected based on a quota sampling method at the individual level. Placement method was used as the fielding method. The margin of error is 3.1% at 95 percent level of confidence. The gender and the age of the respondents is as follows:

- Male- 48.6%, Female- 51.4%
- Under Age of 20: 2.4%
- Age of 20-29: 11.8%
- Age of 30-39: 14.8%
- Age of 40-49: 17.5%
- Age of 50-59: 14.5%
- Age of 60 or older: 39%

*The numbers are rounded off to the nearest 10\(^{th}\), so it does not necessarily amount to be 100%*

For more information on The Genron NPO’s survey, please see: [http://www.genron-npo.net/world/archives/6858.html](http://www.genron-npo.net/world/archives/6858.html)
The survey was carried out November 1-6, 2017 online from a nationally representative sample of Nielsen Scarborough’s probability-based panel, originally recruited by mail and telephone using a random sample of adults. The national sample was 2,000, including a down-weighted oversample of 1,042 among 18-34 year olds. 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 2.19%

For more details on the methodology, please visit: https://criticalissues.umd.edu/sites/criticalissues.umd.edu/files/umcip_nov_2017_survey_methodology_final_version.pdf

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.
Which of the following do you believe is the most effective way to stop North Korea’s nuclear program?

- Direct talks between North Korea and the United States: Japan 21%, U.S. 9%
- Multi-party negotiations such as ongoing diplomatic efforts amongst the 6 countries, North Korea, the United States, Russia, China, South Korea and Japan: Japan 35%, U.S. 16%
- Stricter sanctions against North Korea: Japan 11%, U.S. 7%
- Military action by the United States and its allies: Japan 8%, U.S. 11%
- China taking a stronger stance against North Korea: Japan 17%, U.S. 22%
- I don’t believe North Korea’s nuclear program can be stopped: Japan 27%, U.S. 15%

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Do you support or oppose the United States initiating military action against North Korea in an attempt to stop its nuclear program?
Do you think the problem relating to North Korea’s nuclear program will be resolved and, if so, when?

- It will be resolved by the end of the year: 0% (Japan), 2% (U.S.)
- It will be resolved by next year: 4% (Japan), 8% (U.S.)
- It will be resolved in 5 years: 6% (Japan), 16% (U.S.)
- It won’t be resolved: 67% (Japan), 33% (U.S.)
- Don't know: 22% (Japan), 42% (U.S.)

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North Korea has already acquired nuclear weapons and it is anticipated that North Korea will become capable of launching missiles with nuclear warheads very soon, if it isn’t already. **Do you support or oppose recognizing North Korea as a nuclear-weapon state?**

- **Japan**
  - Support: 13%
  - Oppose: 70%
  - Don’t Know: 17%

- **U.S.**
  - Support: 38%
  - Oppose: 37%
  - Don’t Know: 25%
In response to North Korea’s nuclear development, many in Northeast Asia have become increasingly supportive of previously non-nuclear Asian nations, such as South Korea and Japan, acquiring nuclear weapons. **Do you support or oppose Japan acquiring nuclear weapons** if North Korea doesn’t give up its own?
In response to North Korea’s nuclear development, many in Northeast Asia have become increasingly supportive of previously non-nuclear Asian nations, such as South Korea and Japan, acquiring nuclear weapons. **Do you support or oppose South Korea acquiring nuclear weapons** if North Korea doesn’t give up its own?

**Japan**
- Support: 9%
- Oppose: 68%
- Don’t Know: 22%

**U.S.**
- Support: 33%
- Oppose: 41%
- Don’t Know: 26%
If North Korea doesn’t give up its nuclear weapons, do you support the placement of American nuclear warheads in South Korea and/or Japan?

### Japan
- Don’t Know: 28%
- Support: 21%
- Oppose: 51%

### U.S.
- Don’t Know: 27%
- Support: 52%
- Oppose: 21%
How do you foresee the likely outcome of the tension over the NK nuclear program in the next 5 years? (Choose one)

- The economic sanction will have worked and progress in diplomatic processes toward nuclear freeze will have been made: 9%
- The regime will accept nuclear freeze in an exchange to the protection of the regime and lifting sanctions, the relationship with the United States will also have been normalized: 5%
- There will be a coup within North Korea and the regime will have collapsed: 10%
- The regime will have collapsed following military intervention by the United States and its allies: 12%
- The military intervention by the United States and allies will create further tension and the second Korean War will have occurred: 8%
- North Korea will have been recognized as a nuclear-weapon state and the United States will have withdrawn from Asia: 1%
- Others (Please specify): 1%
- Can’t predict: 54%
- No response: 1%
How do you foresee the likely outcome of the situation on the Korean Peninsula in the next 10 years?

- The instability will remain the same
- North Korea and South Korea will have reduced their tension and improved their relations
- South and North will be unified
- More instability and violence will continue following military intervention and/or North Korea’s collapse
- Don't know (Japan)
- Others (Please specify) (U.S.)
How do you think the North Korea crisis has affected Japan's relations with the United States?

**Japan**
- Strengthened them: 46%
- Weakened them: 4%
- Had no impact: 20%
- Don’t know: 31%

**U.S.**
- Strengthened them: 41%
- Weakened them: 20%
- Had no impact: 11%
- Don’t know: 27%
What level of military power should the United States maintain in Asia?

- U.S. should maintain its current level of military power: 42% (U.S.) - 49% (Japan)
- U.S. should increase its level of military power: 12% (U.S.) - 29% (Japan)
- U.S. should decrease its level of military power: 13% (U.S.) - 9% (Japan)
- Don’t know: 33% (U.S.) - 13% (Japan)

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How do you view the way President Trump has handled the North Korean nuclear issue?

**Japan**
- Very unfavorably: 12%
- Somewhat unfavorably: 51%
- Somewhat favorably: 30%
- Very favorably: 6%

**U.S.**
- Very unfavorably: 41%
- Somewhat unfavorably: 18%
- Somewhat favorably: 25%
- Very favorably: 15%

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Which of the following is closer to your view:

North Korea’s nuclear arms buildup is mostly driven by insecurity and need to deter the United States and its allies

North Korea’s nuclear program is mostly driven by ambition/aggression

North Korea’s nuclear program is mostly driven by the desire to be fully recognized as a legitimate country and as a member of the international community

North Korea’s nuclear program is mostly driven by the need to maintain the current regime and its power

U.S.-Japan Poll 2017
Currently, there is a discord between China and the US–Japan alliance when it comes to Northeast Asian Security. In the future, do you think a multilateral security mechanism which includes China is necessary in order to bring a stable, peaceful environment in the region? (Choose one)
As a multilateral security framework for Northeast Asian security, which of the following alliances would be the most effective?

- China-Japan-South Korea: 9% (Japan), 8% (U.S.)
- U.S.-China-Japan: 12% (Japan), 5% (U.S.)
- U.S.-China-Russia: 6% (Japan), 3% (U.S.)
- U.S.-China-Japan-South Korea: 10% (Japan), 26% (U.S.)
- U.S.-China-Japan-South Korea-Russia: 36% (Japan), 35% (U.S.)
- Other (please specify): 1% (Japan), 2% (U.S.)
- Don’t know: 17% (Japan), 30% (U.S.)

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Please name TWO countries that you believe pose the greatest threat to world peace and security [Open-Ended]
Please name TWO national or world leaders you think pose the greatest threat to world peace and security [Open-Ended]

- **Donald Trump**: 31% Japan, 50% U.S.
- **Xi Jinping**: 23% Japan, 31% U.S.
- **Vladimir Putin**: 29% Japan, 33% U.S.
- **Kim Jong-un**: 44% Japan, 62% U.S.
- **Iranian Leaders**: 10% Japan, 2% U.S.
- **Shinzo Abe**: 2% Japan, 2% U.S.
- **Bashar al-Assad**: 1% Japan, 2% U.S.
- **Angela Merkel**: 1% Japan, 1% U.S.
- **Theresa May**: 1% Japan, 1% U.S.