

Tim Malloy, Polling Analyst (203) 645-8043

Doug Schwartz, Associate Vice President and Director (203) 582-5294

FOR RELEASE: NOVEMBER 16, 2023

# SYMPATHY GROWS FOR PALESTINIANS BUT MAJORITY STILL SYMPATHIZE MORE WITH ISRAELIS, QUINNIPIAC UNIVERSITY NATIONAL POLL FINDS; GENERATIONAL DIVIDE WIDENS ON VIEW OF ISRAEL

As the fighting in Gaza intensifies more than a month after Hamas attacked Israel, sparking the Israel – Hamas war, some voters are changing their view when it comes to who they sympathize more with: the Israelis or the Palestinians, led by young voters and Democrats, according to a Quinnipiac (KWIN-uh-pea-ack) University national poll of registered voters released today. Overall, 54 percent say their sympathies lie more with the Israelis, while 24 percent say their sympathies lie more with the Palestinians. This compares to Quinnipiac University's October 17 poll, when 61 percent said the Israelis and 13 percent said the Palestinians.

Among voters 18 – 34 years old, a majority (52 percent) say their sympathies lie more with the Palestinians, while 29 percent say the Israelis. This is a sharp reversal from October, when 41 percent said the Israelis and 26 percent said the Palestinians.

Among Democrats, a plurality (41 percent) say their sympathies lie more with the Palestinians, while 34 percent say their sympathies lie more with the Israelis. In October, nearly half of Democrats (48 percent) said the Israelis and 22 percent said the Palestinians.

An overwhelming majority of voters (72 percent) say, regardless of their overall feelings toward the Israelis and the Palestinians, Hamas is more responsible for the outbreak of violence in the Middle East, while 14 percent say Israel is more responsible.

### ISRAEL'S RESPONSE TO OCTOBER 7 ATTACK

Forty-six percent of voters approve of the way Israel is responding to the October 7th Hamas terrorist attack, while 40 percent disapprove, and 14 percent did not offer an opinion. In Quinnipiac University's November 2 poll, 50 percent approved, 35 percent disapproved, and 15 percent did not offer an opinion.

There are stark divides by party identification and age.

Republicans (73 - 18 percent) approve of Israel's response, while Democrats (60 - 27 percent) disapprove. Independents are divided, with 44 percent disapproving and 40 percent approving.

There has been a big shift among voters 18 to 34 years old since the November 2 poll. The responses broken down by age are:

• 18 to 34 year olds: 20 percent approve, while 66 percent disapprove in today's poll compared to November 2 when 32 percent approved and 52 percent disapproved.

- 35 to 49 year olds: 43 percent approve, while 41 percent disapprove in today's poll compared to November 2 when 48 percent approved and 38 percent disapproved.
- 50 to 64 year olds: 58 percent approve, while 29 percent disapprove in today's poll compared to November 2 when 58 percent approved and 26 percent disapproved.
- 65 years and over: 57 percent approve, while 32 percent disapprove in today's poll compared to November 2 when 59 percent approved and 27 percent disapproved.

"While Americans overwhelmingly believe that Hamas lit the fuse that set the region on fire, support for Israel's devastating counterattack deteriorates with younger voters," said Quinnipiac University Polling Analyst Tim Malloy.

#### **UNITED STATES & ISRAEL**

An overwhelming majority of voters (73 percent) think supporting Israel is in the national interest of the United States, while 19 percent think it is <u>not</u> in the national interest of the United States. This is largely unchanged from Quinnipiac University's October 17 poll.

A majority of voters (54 percent) support the United States sending more military aid to Israel for their efforts in the war with Hamas, while 39 percent oppose it. Like other questions, there are big gaps by age with the youngest voters 18 - 34 years old (65 - 31 percent) opposing it and the oldest voters 65 years of age and over (65 - 25 percent) supporting it.

When it comes to the relationship between the United States and Israel, nearly half of voters (48 percent) think the U.S. support of Israel is about right, while 27 percent think the U.S. is too supportive of Israel, and 19 percent think the U.S. is not supportive enough of Israel.

# TERRORISM CONCERN

More than 7 in 10 voters (73 percent) are either very concerned (37 percent) or somewhat concerned (36 percent) that the war between Israel and Hamas could lead to terrorist attacks inside the United States, while 25 percent are either not so concerned (15 percent) or not concerned at all (10 percent).

"Could America's unwavering alliance with Israel in a distant war bring terrorist blowback to our shores? The concern level is running high," added Malloy.

# **UKRAINE**

Roughly two-thirds of voters (65 percent) think that supporting Ukraine is in the national interest of the United States, while 30 percent think it is <u>not</u> in the national interest of the United States.

Nearly 4 in 10 voters (38 percent) think the U.S. is doing about the right amount to help Ukraine, 37 percent think the U.S. is doing too much, and 20 percent think the U.S. is doing too little to help Ukraine.

There are partisan divides.

Among Republicans, 24 percent think the U.S. is doing about the right amount to help Ukraine, 60 percent think the U.S. is doing too much, and 11 percent think the U.S. is doing too little to help Ukraine.

Among Democrats, 56 percent think the U.S. is doing about the right amount to help Ukraine, 10 percent think the U.S. is doing too much, and 29 percent think the U.S. is doing too little to help Ukraine.

Among independents, 36 percent think the U.S. is doing about the right amount to help Ukraine, 39 percent think the U.S. is doing too much, and 17 percent think the U.S. is doing too little to help Ukraine.

A majority of voters (54 percent) support the United States sending more military aid to Ukraine for their efforts in the war with Russia, while 41 percent oppose it.

There are partisan divides.

Democrats (77 - 20 percent) and independents (50 - 43 percent) support sending more military aid to Ukraine, while Republicans (59 - 37 percent) oppose it.

### CHINA POSES BIGGEST THREAT

When given a list of four countries to choose from and asked which country poses the biggest threat to the United States, a majority of voters say China (58 percent), followed by Russia (22 percent), Iran (9 percent), and North Korea (6 percent).

There are partisan divides.

Among Republicans, the country they think poses the biggest threat is China (75 percent), followed by Iran (10 percent), Russia (10 percent), and North Korea (2 percent).

Among Democrats, the countries they think pose the biggest threat are China (41 percent) and Russia (40 percent), followed by North Korea (9 percent) and Iran (7 percent).

Among independents, the country they think poses the biggest threat is China (58 percent), followed by Russia (17 percent), Iran (11 percent), and North Korea (6 percent).

1,574 self-identified registered voters nationwide were surveyed from November 9th - 13th with a margin of error of +/- 2.5 percentage points.

The Quinnipiac University Poll, directed by Doug Schwartz, Ph.D. since 1994, conducts independent, non-partisan national and state polls on politics and issues. Surveys adhere to industry best practices and are based on random samples of adults using random digit dialing with live interviewers calling landlines and cell phones.

Visit <u>poll.qu.edu</u> or <u>www.facebook.com/quinnipiacpoll</u> Email poll@qu.edu, or follow us on <u>Twitter</u> @QuinnipiacPoll.

21. Do you approve or disapprove of the way Israel is responding to the October 7th Hamas terrorist attack?

	REGIST	ERED VO	TERS						
				WHITE 4 YR COLL DEG					
	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	Yes	No	
Approve	46%	73%	27%	40%	53%	40%	47%	55%	
Disapprove	40	18	60	44	37	43	43	30	
DK/NA	14	8	13	16	10	17	11	14	
	AGE IN	YRS			WHITE.				
	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	Men	Wom	Wht	Blk	Hsp
Approve	20%	43%	58%	57%	59%	47%	52%	26%	34%
Disapprove	66	41	29	32	32	37	35	53	50
DK/NA	14	16	13	11	9	17	13	21	16

24. Which country do you think poses the biggest threat to the United States: China, Russia, North Korea, or Iran?

	REGIST	ERED VO	TERS						
							WHITE.		
							4 YR C	OLL DEG	
	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	Yes	No	
China	58%	75%	41%	58%	66%	50%	57%	63%	
Russia	22	10	40	17	17	27	25	21	
North Korea	6	2	9	6	3	8	4	3	
Iran	9	10	7	11	8	10	10	9	
OTHER (VOL)	2	1	2	3	3	1	1	2	
DK/NA	3	2	2	6	3	4	2	4	
	AGE IN	YRS			WHITE.				
	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	Men	Wom	Wht	Blk	Hsp
China	55%	56%	62%	58%	67%	55%	61%	43%	58%
Russia	23	24	22	22	19	25	22	31	18
North Korea	7	9	5	4	2	4	3	14	12
Iran	8	8	7	12	7	11	9	6	7
OTHER (VOL)	2	3	1	2	2	1	2	2	3
DK/NA	5	1	3	2	2	4	3	3	3

31. Do you think the United States is doing too much, too little, or about the right amount to help Ukraine?

	REGIS	TERED VO	TERS						
							WHITE		
							4 YR	COLL DE	IG
	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	Yes	No	
Too much	37%	60%	10%	39%	38%	36%	27%	44%	
Too little	20	11	29	17	23	16	23	18	
About right	38	24	56	36	35	40	46	33	
DK/NA	6	5	5	8	4	8	4	4	
	AGE I	N YRS			WHITE				
	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	Men	Wom	Wht	Blk	Hsp
Too much	38%	41%	40%	26%	39%	37%	38%	28%	30%
Too little	23	18	18	21	23	18	20	19	17
About right	31	36	36	49	35	40	38	37	47
DK/NA	8	5	7	4	3	5	4	17	6

32. Which comes closer to your line of thinking: supporting Ukraine is in the national interest of the United States or supporting Ukraine is not in the national interest of the United States?

	REGISTERED VOTERS										
					WHITE						
	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	Yes	No			
In U.S. interest	65%	51%	86%	65%	64%	67%	79%	61%			
Not in U.S. interest	30	46	10	29	31	28	18	35			
DK/NA	5	3	4	5	5	5	2	4			
	AGE IN	YRS			WHITE.	WHITE					
	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	Men	Wom	Wht	Blk	Hsp		
In U.S. interest	61%	58%	65%	81%	68%	68%	68%	60%	67%		
Not in U.S. interest	33	37	32	15	29	28	29	29	31		
DK/NA	6	5	3	4	3	4	4	10	2		

33. From what you know about the situation in the Middle East, do your sympathies lie more with the Israelis or more with the Palestinians?

	REGISTERED VOTERS									
			WHITE4 YR COLL DEG							
	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	Yes	No		
Israelis Palestinians DK/NA	54% 24 22	80% 7 12	34% 41 25	48% 22 30	58% 21 21	50% 26 24	57% 23 20	66% 14 20		
	_	YRS 35-49		65+	WHITE Men	Wom	Wht	Blk	Нѕр	
Israelis Palestinians DK/NA	29% 52 19	48% 23 29	67% 13 20	65% 15 21	66% 15 19	59% 20 21	62% 18 20	30% 34 35	42% 36 23	

34. Thinking about the relationship between the United States and Israel, do you think the U.S. is too supportive of Israel, not supportive enough of Israel, or is the U.S. support of Israel about right?

	REGIST	ERED VC	TERS								
							WHITE				
								4 YR COLL DEG			
	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	Yes	No			
Too supportive	27%	11%	39%	33%	29%	26%	27%	20%			
Not enough	19	38	4	14	20	18	15	25			
About right	48	48	53	46	47	48	54	50			
DK/NA	6	4	5	7	4	8	4	5			
	AGE IN YRS										
	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	Men	Wom	Wht	Blk	Hsp		
Too supportive	50%	31%	21%	12%	23%	22%	23%	29%	43%		
Not enough	13	17	21	21	20	22	21	11	13		
About right	31	45	53	61	54	50	52	48	42		
DK/NA	5	7	5	7	3	6	5	12	3		

35. Regardless of your overall feelings toward the Israelis and the Palestinians, who do you think is more responsible for the outbreak of violence in the Middle East: Israel or Hamas?

	REGISTE	ERED VO	TERS						
								OLL DEG	
	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	Yes	No	
Israel	14%	5%	20%	14%	12%	15%	11%	7%	
Hamas	72	89	69	62	74	70	80	82	
BOTH EQUALLY (VOL)	5	4	5	6	5	4	5	4	
DK/NA	9	3	6	18	8	11	4	7	
	AGE IN	YRS			WHITE.				
	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	Men	Wom	Wht	Blk	Hsp
Israel	36%	13%	6%	5%	7%	10%	9%	19%	22%
Hamas	48	69	81	87	84	79	81	55	57
BOTH EQUALLY (VOL)	5	7	3	2	4	4	4	8	6
DK/NA	11	11	10	5	5	6	6	19	15

36. Which comes closer to your line of thinking: supporting Israel is in the national interest of the United States or supporting Israel is not in the national interest of the United States?

	REGISTE	ERED VO	TERS						
			WHITE						
	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	Yes	No	
In U.S. interest Not in U.S. interest DK/NA			71% 21 8			71% 19 9	13	79% 16 4	
DK/ NA	/	3	0	0	3	9	/	4	
	AGE IN	YRS			WHITE.				
	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	Men	Wom	Wht	Blk	Hsp
In U.S. interest	47%	71%	81%	89%	82%	78%	80%	64%	64%
Not in U.S. interest	_	20		6			15		32
DK/NA	8	9	6	5	3	8	5	14	3

37. Do you support or oppose the United States sending more military aid to Israel for their efforts in the war with Hamas?

	REGISTE	ERED VO	TERS						
								OLL DEG	
	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	Yes	No	
Support	54%	71%	45%	47%	57%	52%	53%	62%	
Oppose	39	25	48	45	39	40	41	31	
DK/NA	7	3	7	8	4	9	6	6	
	AGE IN	YRS			WHITE.				
	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	Men	Wom	Wht	Blk	Hsp
Support	31%	48%	64%	65%	62%	56%	59%	46%	44%
Oppose	65	45	30	25	35	35	35	45	51
DK/NA	4	7	6	10	4	8	6	9	4

38. Do you support or oppose the United States sending more military aid to Ukraine for their efforts in the war with Russia?

	REGISTERED VOTERSWHITE										
									4 YR COLL DEG		
	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	Yes	No			
Support	54%	37%	77%	50%	55%	53%	65%	50%			
Oppose	41	59	20	43	42	40	31	45			
DK/NA	5	4	3	6	3	7	4	5			
	AGE IN	YRS			WHITE						
	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	Men	Wom	Wht	Blk	Hsp		
Support	48%	55%	51%	64%	56%	54%	55%	50%	59%		
Oppose	46	43	45	31	42	38	40	43	40		
DK/NA	6	3	5	5	2	7	5	6	1		

39. How concerned are you that the war between Israel and Hamas could lead to terrorist attacks inside the United States; very concerned, somewhat concerned, not so concerned, or not concerned at all?

	REGIST	ERED VO	TERS								
							WHITE.				
							4 YR COLL DEG				
	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	Yes	No			
Very concerned	37%	51%	25%	37%	35%	40%	33%	43%			
Smwht concerned	36	35	40	35	35	37	39	36			
Not so concerned	15	7	23	17	15	15	17	12			
Not concerned at all	10	7	11	9	14	6	9	8			
DK/NA	1	1	1	2	1	2	1	1			
	AGE IN	YRS			WHITE.						
	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	Men	Wom	Wht	Blk	Hsp		
Very concerned	16%	33%	43%	51%	35%	43%	39%	30%	31%		
Smwht concerned	34	39	37	35	37	37	37	37	36		
Not so concerned	32	14	10	10	15	13	14	16	20		
Not concerned at all	16	13	8	3	12	6	9	15	12		
DK/NA	3	_	2	1	1	1	1	2	1		