

Public Opinion on the Future of the UN
May 2007

Questionnaire

Q1. Thinking about specific steps that could be taken to strengthen the UN (United Nations), here are some options that have been proposed. For each one, select if you would favor or oppose this step.

a. Giving the UN the power to regulate the international arms trade

	Favor (%)	Oppose (%)	Not sure/ Decline (%)
US	60	34	6
Argentina	36	42	22
Armenia	58	27	15
China	59	28	13
France	77	22	1
India	57	31	12
Israel	60	34	6
Peru	52	43	5
Philippines	32	58	10
Poland	44	28	28
Russia	55	28	17
South Korea	75	23	2
Thailand	44	37	19
Ukraine	57	22	21

b. Having a standing UN peacekeeping force selected, trained and commanded by the United Nations

	Favor (%)	Oppose (%)	Not sure/ Decline (%)
US	72	24	5
Argentina	48	30	22
Armenia	75	15	10
China	62	25	13
France	74	25	1
India	58	30	12
Israel	64	31	6

Peru	77	19	4
Philippines	46	44	9
Poland	63	11	26
Russia	58	22	20
South Korea	68	30	1
Thailand	73	12	15
Ukraine	54	19	28

c. Giving the UN the power to fund its activities by imposing a small tax on such things as the international sale of arms or oil

	Favor (%)	Oppose (%)	Not sure/ Decline (%)
US	45	50	5
Argentina	32	42	26
Armenia	46	28	26
China	55	27	17
France	70	30	1
India	47	37	17
Israel	52	39	9
Peru	38	55	7
Philippines	33	56	11
Poland	40	27	33
Russia	39	36	25
South Korea	53	44	3
Thailand	48	29	23
Ukraine	44	20	36

d. Giving the UN the authority to go into countries in order to investigate violations of human rights

	Favor (%)	Oppose (%)	Not sure/ Decline (%)
US	75	22	3
Argentina	46	29	24
Armenia	67	16	18
China	57	28	16
France	92	8	1
India	54	29	17
Israel	64	31	5
Peru	75	23	3
Philippines	46	46	9
Poland	58	14	28

Russia	64	17	19
South Korea	74	25	2
Thailand	52	26	22
Ukraine	66	13	21

Q2. Do you think that the UN Security Council should or should not have the right to authorize the use of military force for each of the following purposes:

a. To prevent a country that does not have nuclear weapons from acquiring them

	Should (%)	Should not (%)	Not sure/ Decline (%)
US	62	33	5
China	47	40	14
France	50	48	2
India	53	34	13
Israel	62	33	5
Mexico [*]	70	21	10
Palest. terr.	38	59	3
Russia	55	27	19
South Korea	43	55	1
Thailand	52	31	18
Ukraine	51	22	26

b. To prevent severe human rights violations such as genocide

	Should (%)	Should not (%)	Not sure/ Decline (%)
US	83	13	4
China	72	18	9
France	85	14	1
India	63	28	9
Iran	69	20	12
Israel	83	15	2
Mexico	73	17	9
Palest. terr.	78	20	2
Russia	64	20	17
South Korea	74	25	1
Thailand	62	23	15
Ukraine	69	11	21

^{*} For purposes of this questionnaire, in questions 120.1-120.5, the “depends” response has been combined to the “not sure/decline” option.

c. To stop a country from supporting terrorist groups

	Should (%)	Should not (%)	Not sure/ Decline (%)
US	76	20	3
China	67	23	10
France	84	16	1
India	60	28	11
Israel	85	12	3
Mexico	71	20	9
Palest. terr.	61	36	3
Russia	65	18	17
South Korea	61	38	1
Thailand	71	16	13

d. To restore by force a democratic government that has been overthrown

	Should (%)	Should not (%)	Not sure/ Decline (%)
US	57	38	5
China	37	45	18
France	52	45	3
India	51	34	16
Israel	58	34	7
Mexico	54	30	15
Palest. terr.	67	30	3
Russia	35	37	28
South Korea	32	65	2
Thailand	46	29	25

e. To defend a country that has been attacked

	Should (%)	Should not (%)	Not sure/ Decline (%)
US	83	14	4
China	70	18	11
France	84	13	3
India	66	22	12
Israel	77	17	6
Mexico	65	21	13
Palest. terr.	81	17	2
Russia	70	14	17

South Korea	76	23	1
Thailand	67	14	19

f. To prevent a country that does not have nuclear weapons from producing nuclear fuel that could be used to produce nuclear weapons

	Should (%)	Should not (%)	Not sure/ Decline (%)
US	57	39	5
China	47	34	19
France	50	48	2
India	50	32	18
Israel	54	39	7
Palest. terr.	39	57	4
Russia	53	22	25
South Korea	42	56	2
Thailand	59	20	20
Ukraine	52	20	27

Q3.: Some people say that the UN Security Council has the responsibility to authorize the use of military force to protect people from severe human rights violations such as genocide, even against the will of their own government. Others say that the UN Security Council does not have such a responsibility. Do you think that the UN Security Council does or does not have this responsibility?

	Has this responsibility (%)	Does not have this responsibility (%)	Not sure/ Decline (%)
US	74	22	4
Argentina	48	27	25
Armenia	66	16	19
China	76	13	11
France	54	39	7
India	51	25	25
Israel	64	28	8
Palest. terr.	69	27	4
Poland	54	15	31
Russia	48	31	21
Thailand	44	22	33
Ukraine	40	16	44

Q4. Below is a list of possible foreign policy goals that [survey country] might have. For each one please select whether you think that it should be a very important foreign policy goal of [survey country], a somewhat important foreign policy goal, or not an important goal at all?

Strengthening the United Nations

	Very important (%)	Somewhat important (%)	Not important (%)	Not sure/ Decline (%)
US	40	39	19	2
Armenia	41	39	12	8
Australia	64	27	9	1
China	51	35	8	6
India	49	35	10	7
Mexico*	56	26	14	4
South Korea	32	58	9	1
Thailand	45	34	4	17

Q5. Please select whether you agree or disagree with the following statement.

When dealing with international problems, [survey country] should be more willing to make decisions within the United Nations even if this means that [survey country] will sometimes have to go along with a policy that is not its first choice.

	Agree (%)	Disagree (%)	Not sure/ Decline (%)
US	60	37	4
Argentina	41	32	27
Armenia	36	45	19
China	78	12	10
France	68	29	3
India	44	35	21
Israel	54	38	8
Mexico†	46	27	27
Palest. terr.	15	81	4
Peru	50	42	8
Philippines	26	46	28
Poland	35	31	34
Russia	33	44	23
South Korea	48	49	3

* For all Question 5 (1-14), Mexicans were offered 4 response options “Very important; somewhat important; of little importance; and not important.” For the purposes of this questionnaire, “of little importance” has been combined with “not important.”

† For purposes of this questionnaire, the “depends” response has been combined to the “not sure/decline” option.

Thailand	48	25	27
Ukraine	30	32	38

Q6. Please rate your feelings toward some international organizations, with one hundred meaning a very warm, favorable feeling, zero meaning a very cold, unfavorable feeling, and fifty meaning not particularly warm or cold. You can use any number from zero to one hundred, the higher the number the more favorable your feelings are toward those organizations. If you have no opinion or have never heard of that organization, leave the box blank and move on to the next question.

a. The United Nations

	Mean	Median	100-76 degrees (%)	75-51 degrees (%)	50 degrees (%)	49-31 degrees (%)	30-0 degrees (%)	Not familiar / Decline (%)
US	55°	60°	24	22	16	5	20	14
Armenia	72.1°	80°	51	14	19	2	10	4
China	75.4°	80°	52	29	8	2	2	7
India	62.8°	70°	40	15	12	4	20	10
Mexico	80°	80°	60	14	10	1	3	12
Palest. terr.	57.7°	60	39	11	20	2	25	4
South Korea	69.8°	70°	39	39	18	2	2	0
Thailand	70.8°	--	38	8	22	1	6	25

b. The World Court

	Mean	Median	100-76 degrees (%)	75-51 degrees (%)	50 degrees (%)	49-31 degrees (%)	30-0 degrees (%)	Not familiar / Decline (%)
US	46°	50°	9	14	25	6	20	26
Armenia	61.1°	60°	33	14	22	6	16	10
China	69.6°	70°	30	27	12	2	3	25
India	54.3°	60°	22	22	14	8	22	12
Palest. terr.	31.7°	30	7	11	18	3	41	19
South Korea	62.6°	60°	23	37	32	4	4	0
Thailand*	66.1°	--	29	6	23	1	8	33

b. The World Health Organization

	Mean	Median	100-76 degrees (%)	75-51 degrees (%)	50 degrees (%)	49-31 degrees (%)	30-0 degrees (%)	Not familiar / Decline (%)
US	59°	60°	25	21	20	3	14	18
Armenia	75.3°	80°	56	12	14	2	9	7
China	80.2°	80°	59	20	5	0	2	14
India	58.1°	60°	30	18	11	5	23	12

Palest. terr.	65.0°	70	43	15	19	2	14	6
South Korea	74.2°	80°	51	33	14	1	1	0
Thailand*	81.4°	--	55	6	13	1	4	22