



Press Release -PPC September 2024 Poll Findings

18 September 2024

These are the results of poll conducted by the Palestinian Center for Policy and Survey Research (PSR) in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip between 3-7 September 2024. The period prior to the poll witnessed the continuation of the war on the Gaza Strip and the failure of all attempts to reach a ceasefire. Talk about the “day after” continued without much progress due to the Israeli government's rejection of the idea.

The sample size of this survey was 1200 people, of whom 790 were interviewed face-to-face in the West Bank (in 79 residential locations) and 410 in the Gaza Strip (in 41 locations). The margin of error stands at +/-3.5%.

The poll covered three main topics: the two-state solution, the Gaza war, and the prospects for reforms within the PA in 2025:

Two-state solution, its alternatives, and the most effective means of ending the occupation and building a Palestinian state:

When asked about support or opposition to the establishment of an independent Palestinian state in the territories occupied in 1967, the poll found a majority support standing at 59% (60% in the West Bank and 59% in the Gaza Strip); 37% do not support the establishment of such a state.

The poll also asked about public support for three possible solutions to the conflict: the two-state solution based on the 1967 borders, a confederation between the two states of Palestine and Israel, and a one-state solution in which the Jews and Palestinians live with equality:

- 51% (49% in the West Bank and 54% in the Gaza Strip) prefer the two-state solution based on the 1967 borders,
- 19% (14% in the West Bank and 27% in the Gaza Strip) prefer a confederation between two states
- 10% (11% in the West Bank and 9% in the Gaza Strip) prefer the establishment of a single state with equality between the two sides
- 21% said they did not know or did not want to answer

We presented the public with three ways to end the Israeli occupation and establish an independent Palestinian state and asked them to choose the most effective one:

- 48% (50% in the West Bank and 36% in the Gaza Strip) chose "armed struggle";
- 30% (24% in the West Bank and 40% in the Gaza Strip) chose negotiations; and

This poll was commissioned with the financial support of the European Union. Its contents are the sole responsibility of the Palestinian Peace Coalition and do not necessarily reflect the views of the European Union.

- 15% (11% in the West Bank and 22% in the Gaza Strip) chose popular peaceful resistance.

The poll asked about the role of international recognition of the state of Palestine. The findings show that an overwhelming majority (70%) believes that international recognition of Palestine and decisions of international organizations and courts help establish Palestinians' right to an independent state while 28% believe they do not.

Nonetheless, an overwhelming majority (79%) believes that the current US administration under Biden will not recognize the state of Palestine this year while 18% believe it will.

Gaza war:

The poll asked about support and opposition to ending the current Gaza war with a prisoner exchange and the return of Palestinian laborers to work in Israel with good-neighborly relations between the Palestinian and Israeli peoples. Findings show the vast majority (70%) in favor of such a deal with only 29% opposing it. Support for such a deal is a little higher in the West Bank, probably because of the return of laborers to work in Israel, on top of the release of the prisoners, than in the Gaza Strip, 73% and 65% respectively.

The poll also asked about the impact of October 7 & the current war on the future of the Palestinian people. A majority of 63% thinks it harms the Palestinians, most likely due to the war casualties and destruction in the Gaza Strip. Only one third thinks it benefited it, most likely because of the world attention on resolving the conflict. Naturally, more Gazans, compared to West Bankers, view the war as harmful, 71% and 58% respectively.

The poll asked about the how people foresee the future of the Gaza Strip after the war. When asked about what the public prefer, 57% (70% in the West Bank and 37% in the Gaza Strip) said they see it returning to Hamas' control, 17% (12% in the West Bank and 24% in the Gaza Strip) said it would return to the Palestinian Authority, 13% (6% in the West Bank and 24% in the Gaza Strip) said it would come under the control of an international force, and 9% (6% in the West Bank and 14% in the Gaza Strip) said it would remain under the Israeli control.

Finally, we asked about the US role since October 7, 2023, in reaching a ceasefire agreement. The vast majority (89%) labeled such role as negative while only 9% labeled it as positive.

International demands and Palestinian reforms

The last topic covered in this September 2024 poll dealt with domestic PA conditions. We asked about people's optimism and pessimism about an improvement in the internal conditions in light of international demands for change, such as the implementation of reform measures or the holding of elections in the upcoming year, 2025. The majority was either not optimistic at all (24%) or little optimistic (35%) while 32% were somewhat optimistic and only 8% were highly optimistic. The level of optimism, the highly optimistic and the somewhat optimistic combined, is higher in the Gaza Strip compared to the West Bank, 53% and 32% respectively.