

NATIONAL OPINION BALLOT REPORT

Results of the Foreign Policy Association's 2023 National Opinion Survey

GREAT DECISIONS 2023



FOREIGN POLICY ASSOCIATION
551 Fifth Avenue, 30th Floor • New York, NY 10176
(212) 481-8100 • Fax: (212) 481-9275 • Web site: www.fpa.org

OPINION BALLOTS have been included with the Foreign Policy Association's *Great Decisions* since 1955 to enable participants to make their views known. Each year FPA sends the NATIONAL OPINION BALLOT REPORT to the White House, the departments of State and Defense, members of Congress, the media and concerned citizens.

ABOUT GREAT DECISIONS BALLOTERS...

A. How long have you participated in the Great Decisions program (i.e, attended one or more discussion sessions)?

This is the first year I have participated	32.4%
I participated in one previous year	17.6%
I participated in more than one previous year	50.0%

B. How did you learn about the Great Decisions program?

Word of mouth	34.7%
Local Library	22.6%
Foreign Policy Association website	5.2%%
Promotional Brochure	1.6%
Other	35.9%

C. Where does your Great Decisions group meet?

Private Home	2.4%
Online/Zoom	18.2%
Library	45.2%
Community Center	9.3%
Learning in retirement	10.9%
Other	14.1%

D. How many hours, on average, do you spend reading one Great Decisions chapter?

Less than 1 hour	16.6%
1–2 hours	64.4%
2–4 hours	17.4%
More than 4 hours	1.6%

E. Would you say you have or have not changed your opinion in a fairly significant way as a result of taking part in the Great Decisions Program?

Have	43.4%
Have not	29.6%
Not Sure	27.1%%

F. How strongly do you agree or disagree with the following statement? Although the media often reports about national and international events and developments, this news is seldom as interesting as the things that happen directly in our community and neighborhood.

Agree strongly	1.6%
Agree somewhat	14.1%
Neither agree or disagree	21.4%
Disagree somewhat	38.3%
Disagree strongly	28.6%

G. Generally speaking, how interested are you in politics?

Very much interested	70.2%
Somewhat interested	27.0%
Not too interested	2.4%
Not interested at all	0.4%

H. Do you think it is best for the future of the United States if the U.S. takes an active role in world affairs or stays out of world affairs?

Takes an active role in world affairs	98.0%
Stays out of world affairs	2.0%

I. How often are you asked for your opinion on foreign policy?

Often	11.7%
Sometimes	62.1%
Never	26.2%

J. Have you been abroad during the last two years?

Yes	50.8%
No	49.2%

K. Do you know, or are you learning, a foreign language?

Yes	54.4%
No	45.6%

L. Do you have any close friends or family that live in other countries?

Yes	65.3%
No	34.7%

For more information about Great Decisions, visit us online

www.fpa.org/great_decisions

(Totals may not equal 100% after rounding.)

M. Do you donate to any charities that help the poor in other countries?

Yes	65.7%
No	34.3%

N. Generally speaking, do you usually think of yourself as a Republican, a Democrat, an Independent, or something else?

Republican	5.3%
Democrat	59.9%
Independent	32.4%
Other	2.4%

O. With which gender do you most identify?

Male	41.9%
Female	57.7%
Transgender male	0%
Transgender female	0%
Gender variant/non-conforming	0%
Other	0%
Prefer not to answer	0.4%

P. What race do you consider yourself?

White/Caucasian	89.1%
Black/African-American	1.6%
Hispanic/Latino	0.4%
Asian-American	2.4%
Native American	0%
Other	2.8%
Prefer not to answer	3.6%

Q. Were you born in the United States or another country?

United States	90.2%
Another Country	9.8%

R. Are you a citizen of the United States, another country, or both?

United States	94.3%
Another country	2.0%
U.S. and another country	3.7%

S. How important is religion in your life?

Very important	21.0%
Somewhat important	21.4%
Not too important	26.2%
Not at all important	31.5%

T. What is your age?

18 and Under	0.8%
19–29	0.8%
30–39	2.1%
40–49	2.1%
50–59	6.5%
60–69	21.2%
70–79	47.2%
80–89	20.3%
90–99	0.8%

U. Are you currently employed?

Full-time employee	9.7%
Part time employee	2.4%
Self-employed	4.4%
Unemployed	0.8%
Retired	80.2%
Student	0.8%
Homemaker	1.6%

V. Can you give us an estimate of your household income in 2021 before taxes?

Below \$30,000	2.4%
\$30,000-\$50,000	4.7%
\$50,000-\$75,000	11.7%
\$75,000-\$100,000	14.1%
\$100,000-\$150,000	23.4%
Over \$150,000	29.4%
Not sure	0.4%
Prefer not to say	14.1%

W. What is the highest level of education you have completed?

Did not graduate from high school	0%
High school graduate	0.4%
Some college, but no degree (yet)	2.0%
2-year college degree	0.8%
4-year college degree	15.4%
Some postgraduate work, but no degree (yet)	10.5%
Postgraduate degree (MA, MBA, MD, JD, PhD, etc.)	70.9%

X. To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statement?

*I think of myself **first and foremost** as a member of the human race, rather than as a member of any national, ethnic, or racial group.*

Agree strongly	45.1%
Agree	25.2%
Agree somewhat	13.8%
Neither agree nor disagree	6.1%
Disagree somewhat	6.1%
Disagree	3.3%
Disagree strongly	0.4%

The NATIONAL OPINION BALLOT REPORT was prepared by the Foreign Policy Association: Karen M. Rohan, editor in chief.

Ballot questions were composed, collected and tabulated by Lauren Prather, assistant professor of political science at the School of Global Policy and Strategy at University of California, San Diego, in affiliation with UCSD.

JUDITH L. BIGGS

GREAT DECISIONS

TEACHER TRAINING INSTITUTE

June 24-June 28, 2024



If you or your teaching colleagues are seeking ways to integrate new international studies skills, techniques, materials, and perspectives into the classroom, please apply to the 2024 Judith L. Biggs Teacher Training Institute.

Visit <http://www.fpa.org/institute> or email mbarbari@fpa.org and request an Institute application. Applications due by February 23rd.

Each year the Foreign Policy Association hosts the Great Decisions Teacher Training Institute which brings together dedicated high school teachers from across the United States. The Great Decisions Teacher Training Institute includes distinguished lectures and workshops that are geared towards introducing effective strategies for teaching foreign affairs in the classroom. Over the past fourteen years, the Great Decisions Teacher Training Institute has proved to provide teachers with a rich source of tools.



BALLOT REPORT HIGHLIGHTS

Opinion ballots are included in each edition of Great Decisions, a briefing book prepared annually by the Nonpartisan, not-for-profit Foreign Policy Association. These responses reflect opinions crafted after the study and discussion of each of this year's eight Great Decisions topics. Most of the participants in this survey are highly educated and of above average income. They have great interest in politics and world affairs. Most are older, including a good number of retirees, but all age groups are represented. A majority identify with the Democratic party, but they are open minded and not ideologically dogmatic. A significant percentage report having changed their views on issues based on what they have learned in the course of their participation in the Great Decisions Program.

The ballots cast by Great Decisions participants include:

Support For:

- ✓ Strengthening global legal frameworks and institutions on a range of issues
- ✓ Humanitarian aid for victims of famine and climate migrants
- ✓ Diplomacy and international cooperation over use of military force
- ✓ Use of US influence internationally
- ✓ Development of green energy and achieving energy security

Areas of Concern:

- ✓ Growing China power and influence globally
- ✓ Climate change and its impact on migration
- ✓ World hunger
- ✓ Improving the use of economic sanctions
- ✓ Effective responses to war crimes

Some questions from the previous opinion ballots, asked again in 2023

(Previous years' answers are in parentheses)

A. From 2017's "U.S. foreign policy and petroleum": How threatening to U.S. national security do you think America's dependence on foreign oil is?

Very threatening	27.3%	(14.5%)
Somewhat threatening	52.5%	(46.7%)
Not too threatening	18.1%	(35.4%)
Not threatening at all	2.1%	(3.4%)

B. From 2019's "Refugees and global migration": Do you think global migration has a positive, negative, or neutral effect on the security of the host country?

Positive	36.0%	(49.7%)
Neutral	41.0%	(32.9%)
Negative	23.0%	(17.4%)

C. From 2017's "Latin America's political pendulum": How interested would you say you are in issues related to Latin America?

Very interested	30.5%	(43.3%)
Somewhat interested	53.1%	(47.3%)
Not too interested	15.5%	(9.2%)
Not interested at all	0.8%	(0.2%)

D. From 2021's "Persian Gulf security": Which of the two options do you think is best for the U.S. to use when dealing with Iran?

Focus on handling Iran alone	3.4%	(5.5%)
Focus efforts on a coalition of partners	96.6%	(94.5%)

E. From 2018's "China and America": Do you think that China's power and influence is a major threat, a minor threat or not a threat to the United States?

Major threat	76.2%	(54.2%)
Minor threat	19.2%	(36.9%)
Not a threat	4.7%	(7.6%)

(Totals from older ballot reports may not equal 100% because some participants did not mark particular ballots or volunteered other responses not tabulated here.)

F. From 2014's "Food and climate": Thinking about U.S. foreign policy goals, how important of a goal is combatting world hunger?

Very important	73.5%	(56.1%)
Somewhat important	24.0%	(35.1%)
Not too important	2.5%	(1.9%)
Not important at all	0%	(6.9%)

G. From 2012's "Energy geopolitics: quandaries intensify": The most appropriate way for the U.S. to ensure its energy security is:

Supply-side: Secure imported energy supplies	1.7%	(4%)
Supply-side: Develop alternative, more efficient energy supplies	77.2%	(57%)
Demand-side: Reduce domestic consumption of energy	13.4%	(27%)
Other	7.8%	(12%)

H. From 2016's "Climate Geopolitics": Do you think that climate change is or is not caused by human activity?

Climate change is caused by human activity	94.4%	(88.4%)
Climate change is not caused by human activity	5.6%	(11.6%)

I. From 2020's "China's Road into Latin America": How concerned are you regarding the inroads that China has made into Latin America for U.S. economic power?

Very concerned	37.0%	(30.6%)
Somewhat concerned	50.6%	(51.6%)
Not too concerned	11.5%	(16%)
Not at all concerned	0.9%	(1.9%)

J. From 2014's "Food and Climate": To deal with the problem of climate change, do you think the U.S. government is doing too much, not enough, or about the right amount?

Too much	5.1%	(9.7%)
About the right amount	12.3%	(16.9%)
Not enough	82.6%	(73.4%)

K. From 2019's "Decoding U.S.-China trade": How interested would you say you are in issues related to the U.S. and China?

Very interested	76.8%	(68.3%)
Somewhat interested	22.8%	(29.2%)
Not too interested	0.4%	(2.3%)
Not at all interested	0%	(0.2%)



TOPIC I / ENERGY POLITICS

Access to oil and gas have long held influence the politics of individual nations and their relations with others. But as more countries move toward sustainable energy, and supply chain shortages affect the availability of oil and gas, how will this change the way in which the United States interacts with the outside world?

A large majority of the participants believe that the US should take an aggressive role in developing green technologies and pursuing energy independence. They are wary of rival powers and skeptical about attempts to cooperate on energy production. Europe's dependence on energy supplies from Russia is of great concern to almost everyone. Most do not view China as a viable partner in sustainable energy production, although a third believed that such cooperation should be pursued. There is almost unanimous support for working with allies towards climate solutions. A large majority believe that nuclear energy has a role to play in moving away from hydrocarbons.

1. Have you engaged in any of the following activities related to the Energy Politics topic?

Click all that you have done or mark none of the above.

Read the article on the Energy Politics topic in the 2023 Great Decisions briefing book	61.1%
Discussed the article on the Energy Politics topic with a Great Decisions discussion group	58.2%
Discussed the article on the Energy Politics topic with friends or family	33.0%
Watched the GDTV episode on Energy Politics	34.3%
Followed news related to the Energy Politics topic	48.0%
Taken a class in which you learned about issues related to the Energy Politics topic	5.3%
Have or had a job related to the Energy Politics topic	4.7%
None of the above	1.0%

It's a messy issue! We should and need to be willing to sacrifice some of our comforts in coordination with world-wide efforts to save our planet.

2. How interested would you say you are in issues related to the Energy Politics topic?

Extremely interested	65.6%
Somewhat interested	33.7%
Not too interested	0.5%
Not at all interested	0.2%

3. How concerned are you with Europe's severe energy dependence on Russia?

Extremely concerned	67.6%
Somewhat concerned	30.5%
Not too concerned	1.9%
Not at all concerned	0%

4. How involved should the United States be in supporting the green energy manufacturing sector?

Extremely involved	77.1%
Somewhat involved	18.3%
Not too involved	2.9%
Not at all involved	1.7%

5. Should the United States attempt to cooperate with China in green energy manufacturing and production, or should it develop its own manufacturing capabilities independent from China?

Cooperate more with China	34.4%
Develop its own manufacturing capabilities	65.5%

6. To what extent should the United States work with its allies to develop climate change solutions?

Heavy cooperation	80.0%
Moderate cooperation	16.6%
Little cooperation	2.2%
No cooperation	1.2%

7. In moving away from hydrocarbons, do you think that nuclear energy has a role to play?

Yes	87.9%
No	12.1%

Comments from balloters are in red boxes throughout the report. The views expressed in the comments are those of the individual respondents and not those of the Foreign Policy Association.

TOPIC 2/WAR CRIMES

Russia's invasion of Ukraine has resulted in widespread charges of war crimes and calls for justice. But what exactly are war crimes? Opinions of what constitutes a war crime have evolved, as have ways to identify and punish the perpetrators. How will the war crimes committed in Ukraine be dealt with?

Over 80% of participants favor the establishment of international institutions and global legal frameworks and express concern that major world powers, including the United States, China and Russia, have not joined the International Criminal Court. They believe that rulings by the court are important despite the lack of enforcement mechanisms and the expectation that war crimes will continue.

1. Have you engaged in any of the following activities related to the War Crimes topic?

Click all that you have done or mark none of the above.

Read the article on the War Crimes topic in the 2023 Great Decisions briefing book	77.4%
Discussed the article on the War Crimes topic with a Great Decisions discussion group	73.5%
Discussed the article on the War Crimes topic with friends or family	45.4%
Watched the GDTV episode on War Crimes	45.5%
Followed news related to the War Crimes topic	61.6%
Taken a class in which you learned about issues related to the War Crimes topic	6.7%
Have or had a job related to the War Crimes topic	1.7%
None of the above	1.0%

2. How interested would you say you are in issues related to the War Crimes topic?

Extremely interested	54.0%
Somewhat interested	9.0%
Not too interested	6.1%
Not at all interested	1.0%

3. What is more important, the establishment of an international law code or the preservation of state sovereignty?

Establishment of international law code	82.1%
Preservation of state sovereignty	17.9%

4. How concerned are you with the choice of many United Nations member states (the U.S., China, Russia, etc.) to opt out of joining the ICC, severely limiting its power?

Extremely concerned	50.9%
Somewhat concerned	40.3%
Not too concerned	6.8%
Not at all concerned	2.0%

5. In your opinion, how likely is it that war crimes will continue to occur in the absence of an enforcement system?

Very likely	96.2%
Somewhat likely	3.0%
Somewhat unlikely	0.4%
Very unlikely	0.4%

6. Are rulings by international courts valuable even if they have no enforcement mechanisms of their own?

Yes	88.3%
No	11.7%

7. In your opinion, how likely is it that war crimes will continue to occur in the absence of an enforcement system to operate in conjunction with the ICC?

Very likely	96.3%
Somewhat likely	3.5%
Somewhat unlikely	0%
Very unlikely	0.2%

I'm afraid war crimes will continue no matter what is produced by a collection of States. We will always need some impetus toward accountability no matter how ineffective.

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TOPIC 3/CHINA'S FOREIGN POLICY

For the past ten years, the United States and China have been locked in a competition for who has the greatest global influence. One major point of contention is the status of Taiwanese sovereignty, which has become even more relevant recently with the possibility that Russia's invasion of Ukraine may prompt China to take similar action regarding Taiwan. How will the United States engage a China which is increasingly seeking to expand its sphere of influence?

Of all the topics covered in this report, US-China relations garner the highest level of interest among participants, with 86% expressing that they are extremely interested in the subject. Among the issues of greatest concern are that China may attack Taiwan in the near future. While over 90% are concerned about this prospect, opinions vary as to what the US response should be in such a scenario. Between a third and a half believe that the US should limit its involvement to diplomacy in the event of military action by China. Between 8 and 18% support direct US military engagement with China depending on China's actions towards Taiwan. A higher percentage support military aid for Taiwan. Despite concern about China's regional ambitions, almost 90% believe that the US should engage with China in an effort to counter Russian aggression in Europe.

1. Have you engaged in any of the following activities related to the China and the U.S. topic?

Read the article on the China and the U.S. topic in the 2023 Great Decisions briefing book	77.9%
Discussed the article on the China and the U.S. topic with a Great Decisions discussion group	67.1%
Discussed the article on the China and the U.S. topic with friends or family	51%
Watched the GDTV episode on China and the U.S.	47.4%
Followed news related to the China and the U.S. topic	72.1%
Taken a class in which you learned about issues related to the China and the U.S. topic	9.6%
Have or had a job related to the China and the U.S. topic	6.6%
Traveled to China	22.9%
None of the above	0.4%

2. How interested would you say you are in issues related to the China and the U.S. topic?

Extremely interested	86.0%
Somewhat interested	14.0%
Not too interested	0
Not at all interested	0

3. How concerned are you that China will attack Taiwan in the near future?

Extremely concerned	42.5%
Somewhat concerned	48.2%
Not too concerned	9.0%
Not at all concerned	0.2%

4. Should the United States intervene if China attacks Taiwan?

Yes, with military force	17.5%
Yes, with aid including weaponry	44.0%
Yes, with diplomacy	35.7%
No	2.9%

5. Should the United States intervene if China seizes smaller, offshore islands currently occupied by Taipei?

Yes, with military force	7.7%
Yes, with aid including weaponry	36.8%
Yes, with diplomacy	50.7%
No	4.8%

6. How important is the U.S.-ASEAN alliance and increased cooperation going forward?

Extremely important	83.6%
Somewhat important	14.5%
Not too important	1.7%
Not at all important	0.2%

7. Should the United States try to improve relations with China in order to win cooperation in the struggle against Russia in Europe?

Yes	89.5%
No	10.6%

Making China the bogymen of current geopolitical and geo-economic current problems is not helpful strategically for the promotion of democratic values globally.

TOPIC 4/ECONOMIC WARFARE

Waging economic warfare consists of a variety of measures from implementing sanctions to fomenting labor strikes. Such tools are utilized by states to hinder their enemies, and in the case of the United States have been used as far back as the early 19th century. Since Russia invaded Ukraine in February 2022, economic warfare has been the main means for the west to challenge Russia. How effective will these sanctions be at convincing Russia to cease its war?

While most still see a necessary role for economic sanctions, participants are not convinced of their effectiveness and believe that some sanctions policies are in need of significant reform. Almost 90% believe that sanctions against Cuba need reconsideration and almost half think that Iranian sanctions need reevaluation. A majority still believe that economic sanctions are the best policy tool to use against Russia, but most are doubtful that such measures will be fully effective.

1. Have you engaged in any of the following activities related to the Economic Warfare topic?

Click all that you have done or mark none of the above.

Read the article on the Economic Warfare topic in the 2023 Great Decisions briefing book	82.6%
Discussed the article on the Economic Warfare topic with a Great Decisions discussion group	78.4
Discussed the article on the Economic Warfare topic with friends or family	48.4%
Watched the GDTV episode on Economic Warfare	48.0%
Followed news related to the Economic Warfare topic	61.0%
Taken a class in which you learned about issues related to the Economic Warfare topic	6.3%
Have or had a job related to the Economic Warfare topic	5.1%
None of the above	0.7%

2. How interested would you say you are in issues related to the Economic Warfare topic?

Extremely interested	54.0%
Somewhat interested	44.7%
Not too interested	1.3%
Not at all interested	0

3. How effective do you believe sanctions are in advancing U.S. foreign policy objectives?

Very effective	4.3%
Somewhat effective	64.2%
Not too effective	28.6%
Not at all effective	2.9%

4. Are sanctions the best policy tool the United States has to use against Russia?

Yes	59.5%
No	40.5%

5. In your opinion, is it time for a reevaluation of U.S. foreign policy regarding sanctions in nations like Cuba and Iran, where sanctions programs have existed for many decades? (Check all that apply)

Yes, reevaluate sanctions on Cuba	89%
No, leave sanctions on Cuba in place	5.3%
Yes, reevaluate sanctions on Iran	47.6%
No, leave sanctions on Iran in place	27.1%

6. To what degree do you feel that the sanctions process has become outdated and is in need of reform?

Needs intense reform	40.1%
Needs some reform	57.5%
Not in need of reform	2.4%

I feel the U.S. is at a large disadvantage with China because our government cannot seem to plan further out than two years. The extreme partisanship of Congress combined with the gutting of the State Department leaves us with few to no options for diplomacy.

International competitors, not enemies...

TOPIC 5/ELECTIONS IN LATIN AMERICA

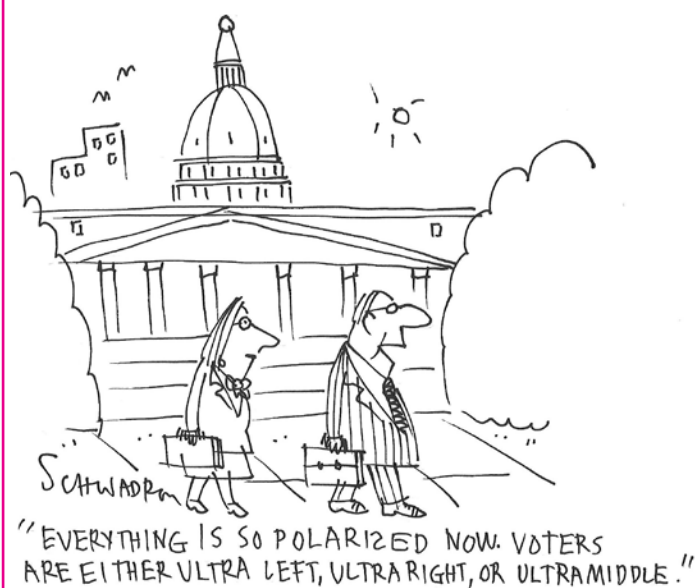
Electoral results in Latin America over the past four years have led many observers of the regional/political scene to discern a left-wing surge in the hemisphere, reminiscent of the so-called “Pink Tide” that swept the area some 20 years ago. But how much do these politicians actually have in common? What implication does their ascendancy have for the region?

While some participants are wary of the rise of leftist leaders in Latin American, most are neutral or positive on this development. Almost 60% see the rising leadership in Latin America as at least somewhat positive, while a third remain wary or pessimistic. Nonetheless, the vast majority believe that the US should seek to improve relations with longstanding leftist regimes in Cuba, Nicaragua and Venezuela. This effort may be in part motivated by concern over China’s influence in the region.

1. Have you engaged in any of the following activities related to the Politics in Latin America topic?

Click all that you have done or mark none of the above.

Read the article on the Politics in Latin America topic in the 2023 Great Decisions briefing book	84.6%
Discussed the article on the Politics in Latin America topic with a Great Decisions discussion group	79.4%
Discussed the article on the Politics in Latin America topic with friends or family	44.0%
Watched the GDTV episode on Politics in Latin America	49.7%



Followed news related to the Politics in Latin America topic	56.3%
Taken a class in which you learned about issues related to the Politics in Latin America topic	8.0%
Have or had a job related to the Politics in Latin America topic	5.5%
Traveled to Latin America	40.7%

2. How interested would you say you are in issues related to the Politics in Latin America topic?

Extremely interested	40.2%
Somewhat interested	50.5%
Not too interested	8.7%
Not at all interested	0.6%

3. How confident are you that the recent election of leftists in Latin America will have a positive effect on the region

Extremely confident	2.2%
Somewhat confident	48.6%
Not too confident	41.1%
Not at all confident	8.2%

4. With the recent elections in Latin America, how do you see U.S. relations being affected?

Relations will improve significantly	1.3%
Relations will improve somewhat	36.1%
Relations will not change	44.5%
Relations will deteriorate somewhat	16.3%
Relations will deteriorate significantly	1.9%

5. Should the U.S. work to improve relations with Latin American dictatorships going forward (ie. Cuba, Nicaragua, Venezuela)?

Yes	87.9%
No	12.1%

6. How concerned are you with the growth of Chinese influence in Latin America?

Extremely concerned	46.1%
Somewhat concerned	43.9%
Not too concerned	9.1%
Not at all concerned	0.9%

7. Do you think the second “pink tide” will have a positive effect on Latin America?

Extremely positive	2.2%
Somewhat positive	57.2%
Not too positive	34.2%
Not at all positive	6.4%

TOPIC 6/GLOBAL FAMINE

Fears of global food shortages have followed Russia's invasion of Ukraine, which has disrupted grain shipments from the major grain producer. But what about countries and regions that were suffering before this impending shortage? How is famine defined, and how is it different from simple food shortages? What if any remedies are there?

The vast majority of participants believe that food access is an important issue for the United States to act upon and that the United States should improve its food aid policies globally. There is widespread agreement that food policy should not be politicized; aid should be rendered to countries in need regardless of whether they are political allies, and over 90% believe that the use of hunger as a weapon should be considered a war crime.

1. Have you engaged in any of the following activities related to the Global Famine topic?

Click all that you have done or mark none of the above.

Read the article on the Global Famine topic in the 2023 Great Decisions briefing book	83.6%
Discussed the article on the Global Famine topic with a Great Decisions discussion group	81.3%
Discussed the article on the Global Famine topic with friends or family	49.7%
Watched the GDTV episode on Global Famine	52.3%
Followed news related to the Global Famine topic	57.8%
Taken a class in which you learned about issues related to the Global Famine topic	6.0%
Have or had a job related to the Global Famine topic	2.9%
None of the above	1.1%

2. How interested would you say you are in issues related to the Global Famine topic?

Extremely interested	56.6%
Somewhat interested	39.8%
Not too interested	3.3%
Not at all interested	0.3%

3. To what degree should the U.S. be involved in preventing world hunger?

Extremely involved	71.0%
Somewhat involved	27.7%
Not too involved	1.3%
Not at all involved	0

4. Should the use of hunger as a weapon be considered a war crime?

Yes	90.4%
No	9.6%

5. With the current war in Ukraine severely disrupting the global grain supply, especially to countries that rely on grain imports in the Middle East and North Africa, should the United States step in and provide aid to those places most affected?

Yes	83.5%
Only U.S. allies	13.5%
No	2.3%
Not at all	0.7%

6. In what sector of famine response, if at all, do you think the United States should improve efforts?

Famine early warning	45.7%
Humanitarian response	56.3%
Providing cash assistance	34.2%
Anticipating and mitigating causal factors	60.3%
Accountability and preventing the use of hunger as a weapon	49.4%
None of the above, the U.S. famine response is adequate	3.2%

7. Should the U.S. care about global famine at all since the U.S. is largely unaffected?

Yes	97.4%
No	1.7%
Unsure	1.0%

Famine is the everybody's problem and every country's responsibility.

Famine is not because of a scarcity of resources in the world, it's the distribution of resources.

TOPIC 7/IRAN AT A CROSSROADS

By the fall of 2022, Iran was in a state of turmoil due to widespread protests against government-enforced hijab, a failing economy, an ineffective new president, and the looming succession of the country's leader, Ayatollah Khamenei. Abroad, renewal of the Iran nuclear deal seemed doubtful and tensions are high between Iran, Israel, and Arab states. Many Iranians have lost hope of a better future, and the country seems at a crossroads. How should the United States deal with it?

A large majority of respondents feel that Iran is a source of insecurity in the Persian Gulf region, and most feel that U.S. relations with Iran are unlikely to improve. Yet roughly three quarters believe that the U.S. should continue cooperative efforts in areas such as nuclear non-proliferation and the war on terrorism. When it comes to influencing domestic politics, most believe that the U.S. should not engage with the exception of providing communications support for those protesting the Iranian regime.

1. Have you engaged in any of the following activities related to the Iran at a Crossroads topic?

Read the article on the Iran at a Crossroads topic in the 2023 Great Decisions briefing book	83.6%
Discussed the article on the Iran at a Crossroads topic with a Great Decisions discussion group	81.4%
Discussed the article on the Iran at a Crossroads topic with friends or family	44.9%
Watched the GDTV episode on Iran at a Crossroads	50.3%
Followed news related to the Iran at a Crossroads topic	61.0%
Taken a class in which you learned about issues related to the Iran at a Crossroads topic	6.8%
Have or had a job related to the Iran at a Crossroads topic	3.1%
Traveled to Iran	3.1%
None of the above	1.1%

Mideast relations are complex. I'd like to see the U.S. distance itself from their disputes to the extent possible.

2. How interested would you say you are in issues related to the Iran at a Crossroads topic?

Extremely interested	56.9%
Somewhat interested	40.3%
Not too interested	2.5%
Not at all interested	0.35%

3. How confident are you that Iran-U.S. relations will be improved in the near future?

Extremely confident	1.0%
Somewhat confident	20.9%
Not too confident	61.4%
Not at all confident	16.8%

4. Is Iran or Saudi Arabia a greater source of insecurity in the Persian Gulf?

Iran	79.2%
Saudi Arabia	20.8%

5. Should President Biden commit to renewing the Iran deal repealed under the Trump administration?

Yes	71.0%
No	10.5%
Unsure	18.5%

6. Do you believe that the U.S. should seek cooperation with Iran to fight terrorism in the region?

Yes	84.4%
No	15.6%

7. In the face of the intense support the Biden administration has given to Ukraine, what kind of support should the Biden administration provide to the protesters in Iran?

Humanitarian aid	37.6%
Increased sanctions on the Iranian government	16.4%
Information support (i.e. providing a platform for internet access and/or an alternate means for communication between protesters)	68.1%
Militaristic support in the form of arms	2.0%
Militaristic support by U.S. troops and/or weaponry	0.3%
All of the above	1.1%
None of the above	9.0%

TOPIC 8/CLIMATE MIGRATION

As climate change accelerates and drought and rising sea levels become more common, millions of people in affected regions must uproot themselves and seek safety elsewhere. Who are these affected individuals, and how might the United States aid them, and be affected by the migration?

The vast majority of participants are concerned about forced migration resulting from climate change and believe that the US has an important role to play in aiding both domestic and international climate migrants. Most believe that international organizations also have an important role in providing support to people displaced by climate change.

1. Have you engaged in any of the following activities related to the Climate Migration topic?

Read the article on the Climate Migration topic in the 2023 Great Decisions briefing book	76.7%
Discussed the article on the Climate Migration topic with a Great Decisions discussion group	71.8%
Discussed the article on the Climate Migration topic with friends or family	50.3%
Watched the GDTV episode on Climate Migration	43.6%
Followed news related to the Climate Migration topic	54.9%
Taken a class in which you learned about issues related to the Climate Migration topic	4.9%
Have or had a job related to the Climate Migration topic	1.5%
None of the above	1.2%

2. How interested would you say you are in issues related to the Climate Migration topic?

Extremely interested	62.8%
Somewhat interested	33.3%
Not too interested	3.9%
Not at all interested	0

3. To what extent should the United States be involved in supporting international climate migrants? Check all that apply.

Provide financial support	9.0%
Provide more avenues for obtaining citizenship	13.7%
Provide humanitarian aid	35.2%
All of the above	41.3%
None of the above	4.1%

4. How about for domestic climate migrants? (Check all that apply)

Provide financial support	5.5%
Provide humanitarian aid	18.3%
Provide relocation services	16.3%
All of the above	54.7%
None of the above	4.9%

5. How concerned are you about climate change effects in the U.S. regarding forced migration? (flooding, wildfires, etc.)

Extremely concerned	57.5%
Somewhat concerned	34.4%
Not too concerned	5.3%
Not at all concerned	2.8%

6. What degree of responsibility should international organizations like the IPCC have in aiding climate migrants?

Highly responsible	51.9%
Somewhat responsible	33.9%
Not very responsible	7.8%
Climate migrants are a national issue	6.4%

7. Should there be a distinction by the U.S. in accepting climate migrants by country of origin? (ex. Accepting migrants from Canada but denying migrants from Cuba)

Yes	7.4%
No	28.2%
Case-by-case basis	64.4%

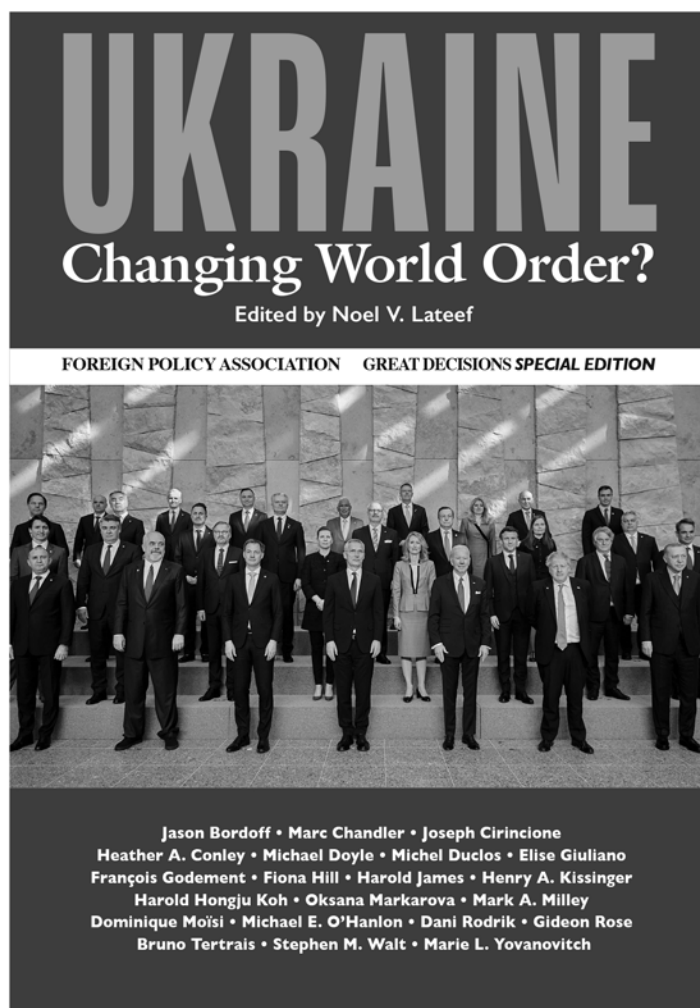
8. Should the U.S. government provide support for climate migrants looking to leave the U.S.?

Yes	39.5%
No	60.5%

I've said this before: Climate change is the greatest danger we face. It dwarfs all others.

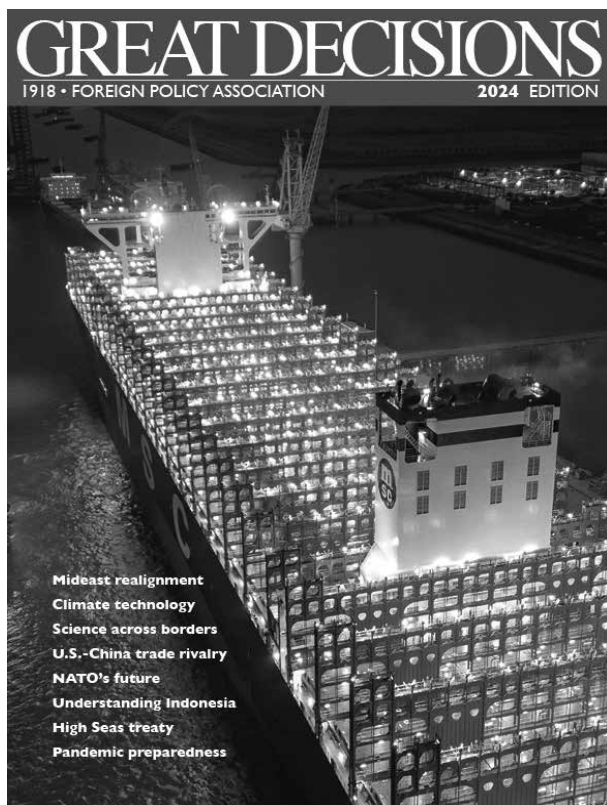
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