

# NATIONAL OPINION BALLOT REPORT

*Results of the Foreign Policy Association's 2022 National Opinion Survey*

GREAT DECISIONS 2022



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

### 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	19.3%
I participated in one previous year	14.7%
I participated in more than one previous year	66.1%

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

Word of mouth	29.4%
Local Library	14.7%
Foreign Policy Association website	2.8%
Promotional Brochure	0%
Other organization	53.2%

### C. Where does your Great Decisions group meet?

Private Home	5.5%
Online/Zoom	42.2%
Library	15.6%
Community Center	11.9%
Learning in retirement	8.3%
Other	16.5%

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

Less than 1 hour	11.9%
1–2 hours	68%
2–4 hours	17.4%
More than 4 hours	2.8%

### 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	50%
Have not	27.8%
Not Sure	22.2%

### 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	0.9%
Agree somewhat	13.4%
Neither agree or disagree	17%
Disagree somewhat	38.4%
Disagree strongly	30.4%

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

Very much interested	75%
Somewhat interested	22.3%
Not too interested	2.7%
Not interested at all	0%

### 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	100%
Stays out of world affairs	0%

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

Often	19.6%
Sometimes	63.4%
Never	17%

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

Yes	26.8%
No	73.2%

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

Yes	56.3%
No	43.8%

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

Yes	66.1%
No	33.9%

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[www.fpa.org/great\\_decisions](http://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	71.4%
No	28.6%

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

Republican	10.7%
Democrat	63.4%
Independent	22.3%
Other	3.6%

**O. With which gender do you most identify?**

Male	43.8%
Female	56.3%
Transgender male	0%
Transgender female	0%
Gender variant/non-conforming	0%
Other	0%
Prefer not to answer	0%

**P. What race do you consider yourself?**

White/Caucasian	92%
Black/African-American	1.8%
Hispanic/Latino	0.9%
Asian-American	0.9%
Other	3.6%
Prefer not to answer	1%

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

United States	92%
Another Country	8.1%

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

United States	98.2%
Another country	0.9%
U.S. and another country	0.9%

**S. How important is religion in your life?**

Very important	25.9%
Somewhat important	23.2%
Not too important	26.8%
Not at all important	24.1%

**T. What is your age?**

18 and Under	0.9%
19–29	0%
30–39	1.8%
40–49	1.8%
50–59	4.5%
60–69	21.6%
70–79	52.3%
80–89	15.3%
90–99	1.8%

**U. Are you currently employed?**

Full-time employee	8.9%
Part time employee	1.8%
Self-employed	0%
Unemployed	0%
Retired	86.6%
Student	1%
Retired	1.8%

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

Below \$30,000	0%
\$30,000-\$50,000	7.2%
\$50,000-\$75,000	9%
\$75,000-\$100,000	13.5%
\$100,000-\$150,000	21.6%
Over \$150,000	24.4%
Not sure	0.9%
Prefer not to say	23.4%

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

Did not graduate from high school	0%
High school graduate	0%
Some college, but no degree (yet)	3.6%
2-year college degree	2.7%
4-year college degree	15.3%
Some postgraduate work, but no degree (yet)	9%
Postgraduate degree (MA, MBA, MD, JD, PhD, etc.)	69.4%

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

*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.*

# BALLOT REPORT HIGHLIGHTS

**O**pinion ballots are included in each edition of Great Decisions, a briefing book prepared annually by the nonpartisan, not-for-profit Foreign Policy Association. Their responses reflect opinions crafted after the study and discussion of each of this year’s eight Great Decisions topics. The majority of ballot participants were middle or upper-middle class and held an advanced degree. They did not shy away from partisan politics either—most were Democrats, although Republicans and Independents were well represented.

## *The ballots cast by Great Decisions participants include:*

### **Support For:**

- ✓ The Paris Climate Agreement with regards to combatting climate change.
- ✓ Russian resistance movements such as “Pussy Riot” and Navalny.
- ✓ The Quad Alliance being used to counter China in the Pacific.
- ✓ The use of rehabilitation and legalization over punitive measures in the war on drugs.
- ✓ Maintaining strong ties with our allies abroad to fulfill our foreign policy agenda.

### **Opposition to:**

- ✓ The Trump administration’s strategy toward climate change.
- ✓ The stature of Putin’s regime in Russia.
- ✓ The United States countering the military junta in Myanmar.
- ✓ Past U.S. interventionism in Latin America to combat the drug trade.

### **Other Views:**

- ✓ Concern over China’s increased presence in outer space.
- ✓ Support for clean nuclear energy to combat climate change.
- ✓ Support for government intervention to aid the well being of the U.S. economy.

## **Some questions from the previous opinion ballots, asked again in 2022**

**(Previous years’ answers are in parentheses)**

**A. From 2019’s “Refugees and global migration”:** To what extent do you think migrants, especially refugees and asylum-seekers, pose a threat to the host country’s security?

Major threat	1.8% (8.4%)
Minor threat	50% (62.2%)
No threat	48.2% (29.4%)

**B. From 2017’s “Latin America’s political pendulum”:** How interested would you say you are in issues related to Latin America?

Very interested	33% (43.3%)
Somewhat interested	52.7% (47.3%)
Not too interested	14.3% (9.2%)
Not at all interested	0% (0.2%)

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

**C. From 2014’s “Energy Independence”: How important is investing in renewable energy to the United States remaining competitive with other countries in the global economy?**

Very important	83.8% (68.5%)
Somewhat important	11.7% (23.6%)
Not too important	4.5% (6%)
Not important at all	0% (1.9%)

**D. From 2010’s “China looks at the world: the world looks at China”: When considering U.S.-China relations, you consider China foremost as:**

An ally	0.9% (24%)
A rival	69.1% (63%)
A threat	30% (14%)

**E. From 2018’s “Russia’s foreign policy”: If the United States reduces its role on the world stage, how likely do you think it is that Russia will benefit compared to other countries?**

Very likely	62.2% (51.9%)
Somewhat likely	23.4% (38.4%)
Not too likely	12.6% (8%)
Not likely at all	1.8% (0.5%)

**F. From 2012’s “Mexico: transborder crime and governance”: Should the U.S. pursue anti-drug initiatives in Mexican territory without explicit permission from the Mexican government?**

Strongly agree	1.8% (5%)
Agree	10.1% (15%)
Disagree	53.2% (51%)
Strongly disagree	34.9% (29%)

**G. From 2017’s “Conflict in the South China Sea”: How big of a problem for the U.S. is the territorial dispute over the South China Sea? Do you think this is a very serious problem, somewhat serious, not too serious, or not a problem at all?**

Very serious	47.7% (33.3%)
Somewhat serious	50.5% (55.4%)
Not too serious	1.8% (11.3%)
Not a problem at all	0% (0%)

**H. From 2010’s “The special envoy in American foreign policy”: What qualities do you consider to be most important/most effective in a special envoy? (Select one.)**

Personal stature/recognizable name	0.9% (6%)
Knowing how to work in coordination with the State Department and ambassadors instead of circumventing established policy	31.5% (13%)

Expertise in the conflict/region	43.5% (22%)
Being willing to work outside of the bureaucratic structure	2.8% (7%)
Negotiating skills	21.3% (51%)

**I. 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	98.2% (88.4%)
Climate change is not caused by human activity	1.8% (11.6%)

**J. From 2017’s “Trade, jobs, and politics”: Globalization is the increase of trade, communication, travel, and other things among countries around the world. In general, has the United States gained more or lost more because of globalization?**

Gained more	84.6% (90.2%)
Lost more	15.5% (9.8%)

**K. From 2015’s “Russia and the near abroad”: Do you think that growing tension between Russia and its neighbors is a major threat, a minor threat, or not a threat to the well-being of America’s NATO allies?**

A major threat	95.5% (60.6%)
A minor threat	3.6% (33.6%)
Not a threat	0% (4.4%)
Not sure	0.9% (1.4%)

*‘Immigrants are an asset to our nation, that’s what made us great—not to fear but to welcome.’*

*‘Control the borders.’*

(Comments from balloters are in blue boxes throughout the report.)

## BONUS TOPIC/CHANGING DEMOGRAPHICS

The world experienced remarkable demographic changes in the 20th century that continue today and have resulted in far-reaching social, economic, political, and environmental consequences all over the globe. These consequences are creating mounting challenges to development efforts, security, the environment, as well as the sustainability of human populations.

Regarding current demographic trends, the majority of participants were more concerned with the population boom in the developing world than with the population decline in the developed world. This feedback reflects heightened concern for the negative consequences many will face in the developing world, such as climate change and poor access to healthcare, education, and jobs.

In the same vein, just over half of participants at 52.5% believed that the increasing number of residents in urban centers was negative due to the stress on social services and infrastructure.

In order to combat the negative effects of changing demographics most participants at 56% stated that the government should be involved at some level in controlling population levels. Whether immigration control should be a tool that the government uses was fairly split between “yes,” “no,” and “unsure,” with “yes” coming just ahead at 46%.

**A. Have you engaged in any of the following activities related to the “Changing Demographics” topic? Mark all that you have done or mark none of the above.**

Read the article on Changing Demographics in the 2022 Great Decisions briefing book	100%
Discussed the article on Changing Demographics with a Great Decisions discussion group	96.8%
Discussed the article on Changing Demographics with friends and family	58%
Followed news related to Changing Demographics	65.6%
Taken a class in which you learned about issues related to Changing Demographics	8.8%
Have or had a job related to Changing Demographics	4%
None of the above	0.8%

**B. How interested would you say you are in issues related to Changing Demographics?**

Very interested	57%
Somewhat interested	41%
Not too interested	2%
Not at all interested	0%

**C. What is of more concern regarding the nature of the changing demographics: the population boom in the developing world, or the population decline in the developed world, or neither?**

The population boom is more concerning	62.6%
The population decline is more concerning	24.8%
Neither is of specific concern	12.6%

**D. Over the course of the 20th century, the population of urban dwellers has sky rocketed. In your opinion, is this demographic change more positive or negative?**

More positive due to social, economic, and cultural benefits	32.8%
More negative due to stresses on social services and infrastructure	52.5%
Neither	14.7%

**E. To what extent should governments be involved in controlling population levels?**

Extremely involved	7%
Somewhat involved	49%
Not too involved	25%
Not at all involved	19%

**F. How involved should the United States be in combatting COVID-19 in other parts of the world?**

Extremely involved	62.2%
Somewhat involved	34.7%
Not too involved	1.9%
Not at all involved	0.8%

**G. Do the varied effects of the COVID-19 pandemic reflect longstanding socio-economic inequalities in the United States?**

Yes	75%
No	13%
Unsure	12%

**H. Should the United States utilize immigration control in order to regulate changing demographics?**

Yes	46.6%
No	31.6%
Unsure	21.8%

## TOPIC I / OUTER SPACE

*The launch of Sputnik 1 in October 1957 marked the beginning of the space era and of the space race between the United States and the Soviet Union. In the 21st century, there are many more participants in space, including countries such as India and China, and commercial companies such as SpaceX. How will the United States fare in a crowded outer space?*

The results of the NATIONAL OPINION BALLOT for the Outer Space topic reflected wide spread concern for China's increased presence in outer space, with 36.4% stating they were "extremely concerned" and 51% stating they were "somewhat concerned." In order to combat China's increased presence, the majority of participants reported the need for some level of U.S. government stimulation of the commercial space sector to act as a viable competitor.

Participants also saw the need to combat China via the public sector as well, with 69.6% reporting support for the U.S. Space Force in order to safeguard U.S. interests in outer space.

**A. Have you engaged in any of the following activities related to the "Outer Space" topic? Mark all that you have done or mark none of the above.**

Read the article on outer space in the 2022 Great Decisions briefing book	100%
Discussed the article on outer space with a Great Decisions discussion group	95%
Discussed the article on outer space with friends and family	57%
Followed news related to outer space	72%
Taken a class in which you learned about issues related to outer space	12%
Have or had a job related to outer space	6%
None of the above	0%

**B. How interested would you say you are in issues related to outer space?**

Extremely interested	43.5%
Somewhat interested	51%
Not too interested	5.5%
Not at all interested	0%

**C. How concerned are you with China's increased presence in outer space?**

Extremely concerned	36.4%
Somewhat concerned	51%
Not too concerned	12.3%
Not at all concerned	0.3%

**D. How involved should the US government be in stimulating the commercial space sector (exp. SpaceX)**

Extremely involved	38%
Somewhat involved	53.7%
Not too involved	7.5%
Not at all involved	0.8%

**E. To what extent is the "U.S. Space Force" program constructed under President Trump necessary in the climate of increased space militarization?**

Extremely necessary	28%
Somewhat necessary	41.6%
Not too necessary	21.2%
Not at all necessary	9.2%

**F. The International Space Station was a successful joint U.S.-Russian space operation. Should the United States seek to find other ways to ease global tension in outer space?**

Yes	93%
No	2%
Unsure	5%

The views expressed in the comments are those of the individual respondents and not those of the Foreign Policy Association.

## TOPIC 2/CLIMATE CHANGE

The ideological divide in the United States on the subject of climate change has impeded progress in curbing greenhouse emissions. But extreme weather events at both ends of the thermometer have focused attention on the consequences of inaction. What role will the United States play in future negotiations on climate?

The results of the NATIONAL OPINION BALLOT focused on Climate Change made it clear that it was a topic of high interest and importance to our participants. Some 88% reported they were “extremely interested” in the topic of climate change, and 89.3% reported climate change was a matter of extreme importance to be addressed by the President and Congress.

The increasing politicization of climate change was also reflected in the responses of our participants with 56% reporting that climate change was at some level more of a political issue than a scientific one.

The vast majority of participants agreed that with regards to combatting climate change, the Biden administration and the European Union have demonstrated the best strategies, with only 6.3% favoring the Trump administration. Many participants also showed favor for international cooperation to tackle climate change with 69.1% reporting that the Paris Climate Agreement was “extremely important” in combatting climate change.

*‘This is the most important issue facing our planet’*

**A. Have you engaged in any of the following activities related to the “climate change” topic? Mark all that you have done or mark none of the above.**

Read the article on climate change in the 2022 Great Decisions briefing book	100%
Discussed the article on climate change with a Great Decisions discussion group	98%
Discussed the article on climate change with friends and family	76%
Followed news related to outer space	91%
Taken a class in which you learned about issues related to climate change	24%
Have or had a job related to climate change	5%
None of the above	0%

**B. How interested would you say you are in issues related to climate change?**

Extremely interested	88.1%
Somewhat interested	10.7%
Not too interested	1.2%
Not at all interested	0%

**C. How important is climate change as an issue to be addressed by the President and Congress?**

Extremely important	89.3%
Somewhat important	7%
Not very important	2.5%
Not at all important	1.2%

**D. To what extent is climate change a political issue more than a scientific one?**

Definitely more a political than a scientific issue	37.3%
Somewhat more a political than a scientific issue	18.7%
About the same	25.3%
Less a political than a scientific issue	18.7%

**E. Which of the following actors mentioned in the article has demonstrated the best strategy toward tackling climate change?**

Trump administration	6.3%
Biden administration	47%
European Union	46.7%

**F. How important is the Paris Climate Agreement for combatting climate change?**

Extremely important	69.1%
Somewhat important	21%
Not too important	7.4%
Not at all important	2.5%

**G. Which of the following methods do you think is the best way to combat climate change?**

Wind Energy	2%
Solar Energy	37.7%
Hydrogen Energy	7.5%
Clean nuclear power	44.8%
Electronic transportation	8%

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## TOPIC 3/RUSSIA AND THE U.S.

*Russia and the United States have many areas of conflict and some possible areas of mutual interest. Arms control, Russian interference in U.S. elections and support of cyberattacks, the status of Ukraine, the fate of opposition politicians in Russia, all continue to be concerning. How will the new administration in Washington approach these issues?*

The article on Russia and the U.S. was yet another one of high interest for our participants, with 90.7% reporting they were “extremely interested” in the topic. This high level of interest undoubtedly reflects the fraught nature of U.S.-Russia relations in the wake of the war in Ukraine.

Nearly all of our participants, at 98.5%, reported high levels of concern with the state of Putin’s regime in Russia, believing it to be a threat to U.S. interests. In hopes of stoking change in the country, 87.6% stated they support Russian resistance movements in their attempts to protest Putin’s corrupt practices. However, the majority at 58.5% did not show optimism that the Biden administration would be able to change the status quo, reporting that it was “not too probable” the U.S. would be able to improve relations with Putin.

**A. Have you engaged in any of the following activities related to the “Russia and the U.S.” topic? Mark all that you have done or mark none of the above.**

Read the article on Russia and the U.S. in the 2022 Great Decisions briefing book	100%
Discussed the article on Russia and the U.S. with a Great Decisions discussion group	97%
Discussed the article on Russia and the U.S. with friends and family	71%
Followed news related to Russia and the U.S.	95%
Taken a class in which you learned about issues related to Russia and the U.S.	16%
Have or had a job related to Russia and the U.S.	6%
None of the above	0%

**B. How interested would you say you are in issues related to Russia and the U.S.?**

Extremely interested	90.7%
Somewhat interested	8.9%
Not too interested	0.4%
Not at all interested	0%

**C. How concerned are you with Putin’s Russia as a threat to U.S. interests?**

Extremely concerned	88.4%
Somewhat concerned	10.1%
Not too concerned	1.2%
Not at all concerned	0.3%

**D. Should resistance movements such as “Pussy Riot” or Navalny and supporters continue to protest Putin’s corrupt practices?**

Yes	87.6%
No	0.4%
Unsure	12%

**E. To what extent does Putin’s popularity derive from his foreign policy?**

Very much so	35%
Not very much	17%
Somewhat	45%
Not at all	3%

**F. How probable is it that the Biden administration will be able to improve relations with Putin?**

Extremely probable	0.8%
Somewhat probable	7%
Not too probable	58.5%
Not at all probable	33.7%

**G. How concerning is the Russian hacking during the 2016 U.S. presidential election?**

Extremely concerning	76%
Somewhat concerning	17%
Not too concerning	5%
Not at all concerning	2%

*‘Putin must be stopped or we could be in WWII’*

## TOPIC 4/MYANMAR AND ASEAN

*The situation in Myanmar, including the coup by the military in February 2021 and the ongoing human rights crises, coupled with civil resistance by those opposed to the regime, has led to the chaos in the Southeast Asian country. How are neighboring countries reacting, and what role will ASEAN play?*

Myanmar is a country with a poor democratic track record, putting into question whether democracy can truly thrive there. NATIONAL OPINION BALLOT respondents agreed, with only 13.8% of participants stating that they believed it was possible for democracy to prevail in Myanmar.

Participants also did not show overwhelming hope for the actors working to counter the military junta in Myanmar, with only 15.7% stating they “very much” thought the NLD was a viable alternative, and 64% stating ASEAN has been “not too effective” in responding to the coup.

Finally, NATIONAL OPINION BALLOT respondents did not show overwhelming support U.S. involvement in Myanmar, but largely agreed at 72.4% that some combination of public denunciation, sanctions, and the freezing of assets would be the best way for the U.S. to respond to the situation in Myanmar.

*‘I was terribly dissatisfied that Aung San Suu Kyi didn’t speak more forcefully about the Rohingya genocide.’*

**A. Have you engaged in any of the following activities related to the “Myanmar and ASEAN” topic? Mark all that you have done or mark none of the above.**

Read the article on Myanmar and ASEAN in the 2022 Great Decisions briefing book	100%
Discussed the article on Myanmar and ASEAN with a Great Decisions discussion group	98.5%
Discussed the article on Myanmar and ASEAN with friends and family	43%
Followed news related to Myanmar and ASEAN	57%
Taken a class in which you learned about issues related to Myanmar and ASEAN	8.4%
Have or had a job related to Myanmar and ASEAN	4.2%
None of the above	0%

**B. How interested would you say you are in issues related to Myanmar and ASEAN?**

Extremely interested	18.7%
Somewhat interested	54%
Not too interested	25.5%
Not at all interested	1.8%

**C. Do you think that it is possible for democracy to prevail in Myanmar?**

Yes	13.8%
No	34.4%
Unsure	51.8%

**D. To what extent do you think Aung San Suu Kyi and the NLD is a viable alternative to the Burmese military?**

Very much so	15.7%
Somewhat	52.9%
Not very much	29.2%
Not at all	2.2%

**E. How effective has ASEAN been in responding to the coup in Myanmar?**

Extremely effective	0.5%
Somewhat effective	11.7%
Not too effective	64%
Not at all effective	23.8%

**F. Should the United States be involved with countering the military junta in Myanmar?**

Yes	17.5%
No	46.2%
Unsure	36.3%

**G. What is the best way for the United States to respond to the situation in Myanmar?**

Denouncing the coup	15%
Sanctions	4.5%
Freezing assets	1.8%
Some combination of these tactics	72.4%
Nothing	6.3%

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## TOPIC 5/QUAD ALLIANCE

As part of the U.S. pivot to Asia, the United States has been in dialogue with Japan, Australia, and India in an effort to contain China. Recently, the Quad countries held joint naval exercises in the South Pacific. How effective will the actions of this alliance be?

As Mr. Rudd demonstrated in his article Quad Alliance, China has continually increased in stature in the South Pacific, leaving many neighboring states and the U.S. concerned. Our participants echoed those concerns with 72.2% stating that President Xi Jinping’s push into the South China Sea was “extremely concerning.”

In response to China’s growth in this important region of the world, the majority of respondents stated that the U.S. should be a key player in resisting China. Participants also placed hope in the Quad Alliance for containing Chinese expansionism, with 82.4% reporting that the alliance will be “somewhat-extremely successful.”

While there was hope for the Quad Alliance, respondents also saw that it was quite probable that President Xi would exploit the presence of this alliance to consolidate more power in China.

**A. Have you engaged in any of the following activities related to the “Quad Alliance” topic? Mark all that you have done or mark none of the above.**

Read the article on Quad Alliance in the 2022 Great Decisions briefing book	100%
Discussed the article on Quad Alliance with a Great Decisions discussion group	99%
Discussed the article on Quad Alliance with friends and family	51.5%
Followed news related to Quad Alliance	60.3%
Taken a class in which you learned about issues related to Quad Alliance	9.3%
Have or had a job related to Quad Alliance	5.4%
None of the above	1%

**B. How interested would you say you are in issues related to the Quad Alliance?**

Extremely interested	48.9%
Somewhat interested	46.5%
Not too interested	4.2%
Not at all interested	0.5%

**C. How concerning is President Jinping’s continued push into the South China Sea?**

Extremely concerning	72.2%
Somewhat concerning	26.4%
Not too concerning	1%
Not at all concerning	0.5%

**D. Should the U.S be a key player in resisting Chinese hegemony in the Pacific?**

Strongly agree	55.3%
Agree	41.5%
Disagree	2.3%
Strongly disagree	1%

**E. How successful will the Quad Alliance be containing Chinese expansionism?**

Extremely successful	4.6%
Somewhat successful	77.8%
Not too successful	17.1%
Not at all successful	0.5%

**F. How probable do you think it is that President Xi Jinping will exploit the presence of the Quad in order to make a bid for more power?**

Extremely probable	45.8%
Somewhat probable	43%
Not too probable	10.8%
Not at all probable	0.5%

*‘An important entity in South East Asia. Glad to see it has gained some traction.’*

*‘Quad Alliance is the best challenge to China if it stays intact.’*

## TOPIC 6/DRUG POLICY IN LATIN AMERICA

*The issue of migration to the United States from Latin America has overshadowed the war on drugs, which has been underway for decades with little sign of progress. What are the roots and the bureaucratic logic behind today's dominant drug policies in Latin America? Is it time to reconsider punitive drug policies that disrupt supply chains and punish drug possession?*

NATIONAL OPINION BALLOT respondents overwhelmingly reported disapproval of the war on drugs in Latin America, highlighting a strong desire to switch tactics to solve one of the most pressing problems in the region. In particular, many participants signaled a belief that the U.S. was at least partially to blame, with 65.9% reporting they did not have a positive opinion of U.S. interventionism in Latin America.

With regards to new tactics that could be tried in the region, many participants placed hope in rehabilitation and legalization over punitive measures with well over half stating these would be preferable to harsher methods.

**A. Have you engaged in any of the following activities related to the “Drug Policy in Latin America” topic? Mark all that you have done or mark none of the above.**

Read the article on Drug Policy in Latin America in the 2022 Great Decisions briefing book	100%
Discussed the article on Drug Policy in Latin America with a Great Decisions discussion group	95%
Discussed the article on Drug Policy in Latin America with friends and family	54.4%
Followed news related to Drug Policy in Latin America	55.4%
Taken a class in which you learned about issues related to Drug Policy in Latin America	5.9%
Have or had a job related to Drug Policy in Latin America	4.4%
None of the above	0%

**B. How interested would you say you are in issues related to Drug Policy in Latin America?**

Extremely interested	37.9%
Somewhat interested	56.9%
Not too interested	5.2%
Not at all interested	0%

**C. How effective has the war on drugs been in combating the drug trade?**

Extremely effective	0.5%
Somewhat effective	4.8%
Not too effective	55%
Not at all effective	39.7%

**D. Do you have a positive opinion of U.S. interventionism in Latin America as it pertains to drug policy?**

Yes	1.4%
Somewhat	24.2%
No	65.9%
Unsure	8.5%

**E. Should governments in Latin America continue to pursue punitive measures to combat the drug trade?**

Yes	39.5%
No	20.5%
Unsure	40%

**F. Do you agree that a focus on rehabilitation and legalization may be a good alternative to the punitive measures of the past?**

Strongly agree	45.7%
Somewhat agree	39.1%
Neither agree nor disagree	9.1%
Somewhat disagree	4.8%
Strongly disagree	1.4%

## TOPIC 7/INDUSTRIAL POLICY

*The current discussion of industrial policy in the United States is not simply about whether or not to support specific companies or industries, but about trust or mistrust of the government and its ability to manage the economy and deal with a rising China. The upheaval in supply chains during the pandemic exposed weaknesses in the international economy. What policies can the United States implement to deal with trade and the economy?*

Industrial policy is one of the integral tools being used by the Biden administration to bolster the U.S. economy and project U.S. power abroad. NATIONAL OPINION BALLOT participants overwhelmingly support this policy initiative, with all save 3% stating that the government should be involved at some level in the well-being of the U.S. economy. Respondents also largely agreed that the economy impacts foreign policy with 83.3% responding that the two are “extremely connected.”

The recent rise in China’s stature on the world stage is testament to the power of industrial policy, and NATIONAL OPINION BALLOT respondents agreed with 72.8% stating that industrial policy is “extremely responsible” for China’s rise in economic power.

### A. Have you engaged in any of the following activities related to the “Industrial Policy” topic? Mark all that you have done or mark none of the above.

Read the article on Industrial Policy in the 2022 Great Decisions briefing book	100%
Discussed the article on Industrial Policy with a Great Decisions discussion group	95.6%
Discussed the article on Industrial Policy with friends and family	51.9%
Followed news related to Industrial Policy	66.1%
Taken a class in which you learned about issues related to Industrial Policy	8.2%
Have or had a job related to Industrial Policy	4.9%
None of the above	0%

### B. How interested would you say you are in issues related to Industrial Policy?

Extremely interested	46.4%
Somewhat interested	45.8%
Not too interested	5.7%
Not at all interested	2.1%

### C. How involved should the government be in the well-being of the U.S. economy?

Extremely involved	51.8%
Somewhat involved	45%
Not too involved	2.6%
Not at all involved	0.5%

### D. How connected would you say economic power is with foreign policy?

Extremely connected	83.3%
Somewhat connected	15.2%
Not too connected	1.6%
Not at all connected	0%

### E. How responsible would you say industrial policy is for the rise in Chinese economic power?

Extremely responsible	72.8%
Somewhat responsible	23%
Not too responsible	3.7%
Not at all responsible	0.5%

### F. Which of the following area do you think should be receiving the most aid from state intervention?

U.S. highways	15.2%
Modernizing ports	11%
Pre-K education	11.5%
Alternative energy	62.3%
Automotive sector	0%

### G. How concerned are you with the ascent of Chinese economic power?

Extremely concerned	51.8%
Somewhat concerned	39.8%
Not too concerned	8.4%
Not at all concerned	0%

## TOPIC 8/BIDEN'S AGENDA

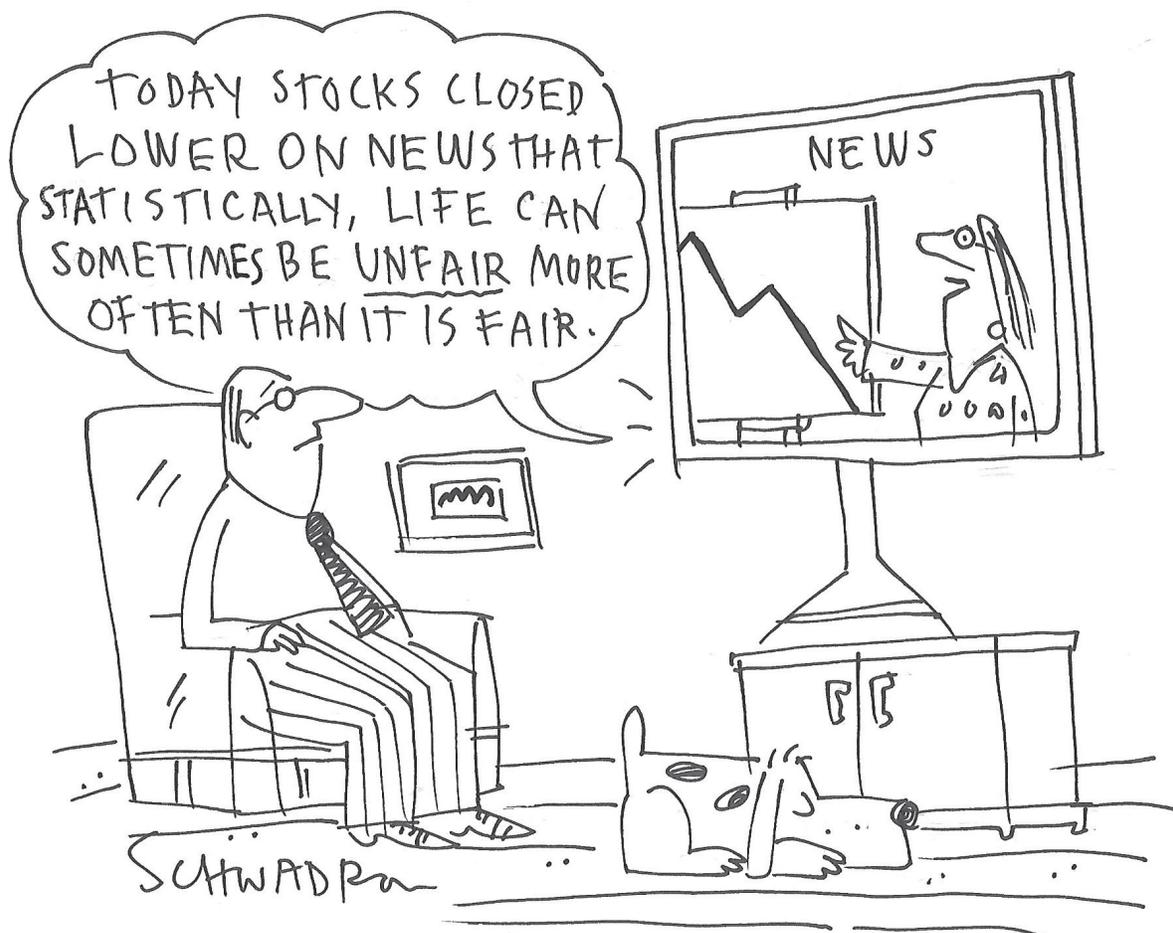
*The new administration in Washington promised to reverse many of the policies of the past administration, especially in foreign policy. How will issues such as climate, the pandemic, and alliances be treated under the Biden administration?*

NATIONAL OPINION BALLOT participants reported overwhelming support for Biden's foreign policy agenda at 63.1% as explained in the article Biden's Agenda. Many parts of this article were touched upon in the previous articles as well so participants had a strong background to understand the author's discourse.

Two of the main points of Biden's agenda which participants agreed with were importance of maintaining good ties with our allies, with 97.3% stating it to be "extremely important," and countering China's growth, with 61.3% considering China's rise "extremely concerning."

**A. Have you engaged in any of the following activities related to the "Biden's Agenda" topic? Mark all that you have done or mark none of the above.**

Read the article on Biden's Agenda in the 2022 Great Decisions briefing book	100%
Discussed the article on Biden's Agenda with a Great Decisions discussion group	91.8%
Discussed the article on Biden's Agenda with friends and family	59.3%
Followed news related to Biden's Agenda	80.2%
Taken a class in which you learned about issues related to Biden's Agenda	10%
Have or had a job related to Biden's Agenda	7.6%
None of the above	0%



**B. How interested would you say you are in issues related to Biden's Agenda?**

Extremely interested	82.4%
Somewhat interested	15.5%
Not too interested	2.1%
Not at all interested	0%

**C. Do you support Biden's foreign policy agenda?**

Strongly support	63.1%
Somewhat support	27.8%
Support a little	5.9%
Don't support	3.2%

**D. How important is it to maintain good ties with U.S. allies?**

Extremely important	97.3%
Somewhat important	2.1%
Not too important	0%
Not at all important	0.5%



**E. How concerning is the rise of China?**

Extremely concerning	61.3%
Somewhat concerning	35%
Not too concerning	3.2%
Not at all concerning	0.5%

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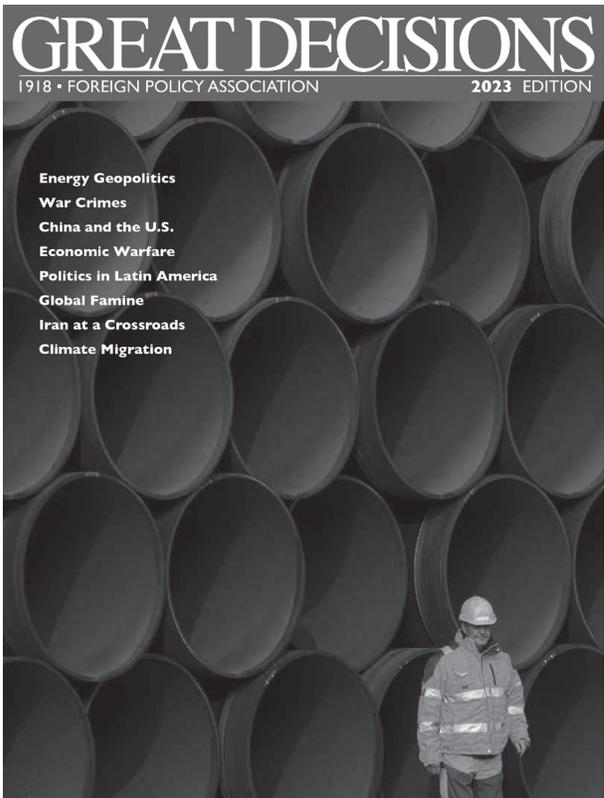
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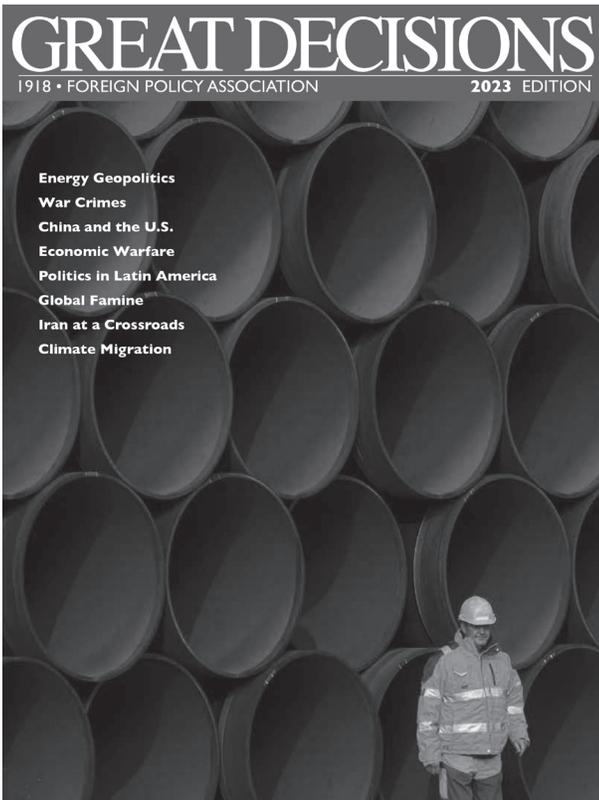
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