

**Results of an Opinion Poll**

**in the West Bank and Gaza Strip**

***Reconciliation***

***Government and popular expectations***

***Overall situation***

***Elections***

***Negotiations and the peace process***

**Publication Date: 3 June 2014**

**Fieldwork: 24-26 May 2014**

**Sample Size: 1200 Palestinian in the West Bank and Gaza**

**Margin of error: ±3%**

**Arab World for Research &Development.Ramallah – Gaza, Palestine. Tele-fax: 00970-2-2950957/8
E-mail:** **awrad@awrad.org** **Website:** [**www.awrad.org**](http://www.awrad.org)

**Overall situation**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | West Bank | Gaza | Total |
| In general, would you say that things in Palestine are heading in the right direction or the wrong direction? |
| Right direction  | 51.3% | 60.9% | 54.9% |
| Wrong direction  | 43.8% | 37.3% | 41.4% |
| Don’t know | 4.9% | 1.8% | 3.8% |

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | West Bank | Gaza | Total |
| Are you optimistic or pessimistic about the future? |
| Optimistic  | 58.3% | 70.9% | 63.1% |
| Pessimistic  | 39.1% | 28.7% | 35.2% |
| Don’t know | 2.5% | 0.4% | 1.8% |

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|  | West Bank | Gaza  | Total |
| Is your family’s economic situation better or worse than it was a year ago? |
| Better | 19.6% | 10.2% | 16.1% |
| Stayed the same | 37.1% | 32.0% | 35.2% |
| Worse | 42.9% | 57.6% | 48.4% |
| Don’t know | 0.4% | 0.2% | 0.3% |

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | West Bank | Gaza  | Total |
| Do you feel that internal security in your region has improved or diminished during the past year? |
| Improved | 30.7% | 29.1% | 30.1% |
| Diminished | 38.3% | 31.6% | 35.8% |
| Stayed the same | 30.8% | 38.7% | 33.8% |
| Don’t know | 0.1% | 0.7% | 0.3% |

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|  | West Bank | Gaza  | Total |
| Do you feel that the corruption under the current government in your region has decreased, increased, or stayed the same? |
| Decreased | 24.8% | 23.3% | 24.3% |
| Increased | 45.7% | 40.2% | 43.6% |
| Stayed the same | 25.9% | 34.7% | 29.2% |
| Don’t know | 3.6% | 1.8% | 2.9% |

**Negotiations and the peace process**

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | West Bank | Gaza | Total |
| Do you believe that the current standstill in negotiations will have a positive, negative or no impact on the Palestinian situation? |
| Positive | 26.2% | 33.6% | 28.9% |
| Negative | 36.0% | 36.0% | 36.0% |
| No impact | 37.8% | 30.4% | 35.0% |

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|  | West Bank | Gaza  | Total |
| Do you support or oppose a resumption of negotiations between the PA and Israel? |
| Support | 49.0% | 51.1% | 49.8% |
| Oppose | 42.9% | 45.8% | 44.0% |
| Don’t know | 8.1% | 3.1% | 6.3% |

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | West Bank | Gaza  | Total |
| President Abbas stated that the PA is willing to return to negotiations if Israel releases the fourth round of prisoners and halts all settlement construction for 3 months. If both of these conditions are met, do you support a return to negotiations? |
| Support | 69.2% | 63.8% | 67.1% |
| Oppose | 25.9% | 34.7% | 29.2% |
| Don’t know | 4.9% | 1.6% | 3.7% |

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|  | West Bank | Gaza  | Total |
| Which of the following was most responsible for the breakdown of negotiations? |
| Israel’s positions on contested issues  | 63.8% | 69.1% | 65.8% |
| Palestinian positions on contested issues | 11.6% | 14.4% | 12.7% |
| The inability of the US to manage the negotiations | 3.7% | 2.7% | 3.3% |
| Another reason | 20.8% | 13.8% | 18.2% |

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | West Bank | Gaza  | Total |
| Do you think Palestinian-US relations will be harmed due to the lack of progress in the recent talks and the current pause? |
| Yes | 39.4% | 30.0% | 35.9% |
| No | 28.4% | 31.3% | 29.5% |
| Won’t make a difference | 26.8% | 37.3% | 30.8% |
| Don’t know | 5.3% | 1.3% | 3.8% |

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|  | West Bank | Gaza  | Total |
| In general, do you believe the U.S. is important to the conduct of negotiations and the eventual resolution of the Palestinian-Israeli conflict?  |
| Yes | 59.4% | 48.7% | 55.4% |
| No | 30.8% | 45.6% | 36.4% |
| Don’t know | 9.7% | 5.8% | 8.3% |

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|  | West Bank | Gaza | Total |
| What do you believe is the most significant impediment to reaching a solution? |
| Jerusalem | 29.7% | 46.2% | 35.9% |
| Refugees | 25.8% | 32.7% | 28.4% |
| Settlements | 28.8% | 9.8% | 21.6% |
| Future borders | 8.3% | 7.3% | 7.9% |
| Demilitarization of the future Palestinian state | 3.6% | 3.8% | 3.7% |
| The Jordan Valley | 2.0% | 0.2% | 1.3% |
| Water | 1.7% |   | 1.1% |

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|  | West Bank | Gaza | Total |
| Do you support the principle of a two-state solution with a Palestinian state living side-by-side in peace with Israel? |
| Support | 57.5% | 52.0% | 55.4% |
| Oppose | 38.8% | 46.9% | 41.8% |
| Don’t know | 3.7% | 1.1% | 2.8% |

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|  | West Bank | Gaza | Total |
| 20 years after Oslo, do you feel that Palestinians are closer to or farther from achieving their goal of a Palestinian state? |
| Closer | 36.2% | 42.0% | 38.4% |
| Farther | 57.9% | 53.6% | 56.3% |
| Don’t know | 5.9% | 4.4% | 5.3% |

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|  | West Bank | Gaza | Total |
| Do you have more or less hope for the peace process compared to one year ago? |
| More hope | 35.6% | 43.6% | 38.6% |
| Less hope | 59.5% | 53.6% | 57.3% |
| Don’t know | 4.8% | 2.9% | 4.1% |

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|  | West Bank | Gaza | Total |
| Which of the approaches to achieving independence do you prefer? |
| The approach advocated by the PLO and President Abbas | 51.5% | 48.4% | 50.4% |
| The approach advocated by Hamas and Khaled Meshal | 15.1% | 24.0% | 18.4% |
| Other | 11.3% | 17.8% | 13.8% |
| Don’t know | 22.0% | 9.8% | 17.4% |

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|  | West Bank | Gaza | Total |
| If negotiations don’t restart and resorting to the UN does not prove successful, would you support dismantling the PA? |
| Support | 30.2% | 24.4% | 28.0% |
| Oppose | 64.2% | 70.7% | 66.6% |
| Don’t know | 5.6% | 4.9% | 5.3% |

**Reconciliation**

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|  | West Bank | Gaza | Total |
| Recently, there have been renewed efforts by the Palestinian factions to advance reconciliation and form a national unity government. Are you optimistic or pessimistic about the results of these endeavors? |
| Optimistic  | 73.9% | 84.4% | 77.9% |
| Pessimistic  | 23.0% | 14.9% | 19.9% |
| Don’t know | 3.1% | 0.7% | 2.2% |

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|  | West Bank | Gaza | Total |
| Palestinian leaders recently announced that a new cabinet, composed of non-affiliated technocrats, would be formed within 5 weeks of the April Gaza City Agreement. Are you optimistic or pessimistic that this deadline will be met? |
| Optimistic  | 69.3% | 83.1% | 74.5% |
| Pessimistic  | 25.1% | 16.2% | 21.8% |
| Don’t know | 5.6% | 0.7% | 3.8% |

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|  | West Bank | Gaza | Total |
| Palestinian leaders recently announced that presidential and legislative elections would be held within 6 months of the formation of the unity government under the Gaza City Agreement. Are you optimistic or pessimistic that this deadline will be met? |
| Optimistic  | 65.4% | 78.0% | 70.1% |
| Pessimistic  | 27.5% | 20.2% | 24.8% |
| Don’t know | 7.1% | 1.8% | 5.1% |

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|  | West Bank | Gaza | Total |
| Recently, President Mahmoud Abbas stated that the unity government to be formed would recognize Israel, renounce violence and honor all previous international agreements. Do you support or oppose this decision? |
| Support | 53.9% | 49.3% | 52.2% |
| Oppose | 39.8% | 46.9% | 42.5% |
| Don’t know | 6.3% | 3.8% | 5.3% |

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|  | West Bank | Gaza | Total |
| Do you support or oppose each one of the following three elements that were mentioned in the President’s speech? |
| Recognition of Israel | Support | 16.6% | 14.7% | 15.9% |
| Maybe | 14.3% | 12.0% | 13.5% |
| Oppose | 64.8% | 72.7% | 67.8% |
| Don’t know  | 4.3% | 0.7% | 2.9% |
| Renunciation of violence | Support | 47.6% | 47.8% | 47.7% |
| Maybe | 18.6% | 24.2% | 20.7% |
| Oppose | 30.6% | 27.8% | 29.5% |
| Don’t know  | 3.2% | 0.2% | 2.1% |
| Honoring all previous international agreements signed by the PA | Support | 41.3% | 52.0% | 45.3% |
| Maybe | 23.3% | 22.7% | 23.0% |
| Oppose | 31.1% | 24.4% | 28.6% |
| Don’t know  | 4.3% | 0.9% | 3.0% |

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|  | West Bank | Gaza | Total |
| Who stands to benefit the most from the formation of a national unity government? |
| Fatah only | 8.7% | 2.2% | 6.3% |
| Hamas only | 3.5% | 10.7% | 6.2% |
| Both parties only | 36.6% | 38.0% | 37.1% |
| All citizens | 47.7% | 48.4% | 48.0% |
| Don’t know | 3.5% | 0.7% | 2.4% |

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|  | West Bank | Gaza | Total |
| In the U.S. Congress, several lawmakers have discussed passing legislation suspending aid to any government that includes Hamas. Should Palestinian factions continue with efforts to forge a national government if the U.S. or other foreign donors suspend aid? |
| Yes | 82.5% | 88.0% | 84.6% |
| No | 11.2% | 10.9% | 11.1% |
| Don’t know | 6.3% | 1.1% | 4.3% |

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|  | West Bank | Gaza | Total |
| Recently, Israeli P.M. Netanyahu stated Israel will not engage in negotiations with any government that includes Hamas. Should Palestinian factions continue with efforts to forge a national unity government if Israel refuses to return to negotiations as a result? |
| Yes | 82.9% | 86.7% | 84.3% |
| No | 11.2% | 11.6% | 11.4% |
| Don’t know | 5.9% | 1.8% | 4.3% |

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | West Bank | Gaza | Total |
| If a national unity government is formed, what should be the immediate next step? |
| Immediate conduct of national elections | 44.8% | 69.1% | 53.9% |
| Application to join additional U.N. and international bodies | 17.0% | 6.7% | 13.1% |
| Resumption of peace talks with Israel | 14.7% | 7.1% | 11.9% |
| Adoption of a campaign of non-violent resistance | 12.3% | 5.6% | 9.8% |
| Adoption of a campaign of violent resistance | 10.3% | 8.4% | 9.6% |
| Another action  | 0.9% | 3.1% | 1.8% |

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|  | West Bank | Gaza | Total |
| Recently, there have been talks about the reintegration of security forces, with police officers from the PA integrated into the police force in Gaza, and vice versa. Do you support or oppose this decision? |
| Support | 77.1% | 84.9% | 80.0% |
| Oppose | 15.3% | 13.1% | 14.5% |
| Don’t know | 7.6% | 2.0% | 5.5% |

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | West Bank | Gaza | Total |
| Do you support or oppose Hamas joining the PLO? |
| Support | 74.7% | 80.0% | 76.7% |
| Oppose | 18.0% | 18.2% | 18.1% |
| Don’t know | 7.4% | 1.8% | 5.3% |

**Government performance**

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | West Bank | Gaza | Total |
| In general, how do you evaluate the performance of the government led by Rami Hamdallah? |
| Positive  | 41.5% | 42.2% | 41.8% |
| Average  | 31.6% | 33.1% | 32.2% |
| Negative  | 12.7% | 13.8% | 13.1% |
| Don’t know | 14.2% | 10.9% | 12.9% |

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | West Bank | Gaza | Total |
| In general, how do you evaluate the performance of the government led by Ismael Haniyeh? |
| Positive  | 25.2% | 29.6% | 26.8% |
| Average  | 35.5% | 37.6% | 36.3% |
| Negative  | 22.4% | 32.2% | 26.1% |
| Don’t know | 17.0% | 0.7% | 10.9% |

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | West Bank | Gaza | Total |
| In general, how do you rate the overall performance of President Mahmoud Abbas? |
| Positive  | 46.0% | 44.2% | 45.3% |
| Average  | 35.1% | 30.9% | 33.5% |
| Negative  | 15.0% | 23.6% | 18.2% |
| Don’t know | 3.9% | 1.3% | 2.9% |

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | West Bank | Gaza | Total |
| In general, do you approve or disapprove of the performance of President Mahmoud Abbas? |
| Approve  | 60.0% | 55.3% | 58.2% |
| Disapprove  | 27.3% | 37.3% | 31.1% |
| Don’t know | 12.7% | 7.3% | 10.7% |

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|  | West Bank | Gaza | Total |
| If you had a choice between Rami Al Hamadallah and Ismael Haniya for being the Prime Minister for the unity government, who would you choose? |
| Rami Al Hamadallah | 48.2% | 50.7% | 49.1% |
| Ismael Haniya | 14.5% | 27.1% | 19.2% |
| Neither of the two | 25.6% | 19.8% | 23.4% |
| Don’t know | 11.8% | 2.4% | 8.3% |

**Elections**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | West Bank | Gaza | Total |
| Do you support the immediate conduct of legislative election in the West Bank and Gaza? |
| Yes  | 89.6% | 95.3% | 91.7% |
| No  | 6.7% | 4.4% | 5.8% |
| Don’t know | 3.7% | 0.2% | 2.4% |

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | West Bank | Gaza | Total |
| Do you support the immediate conduct of presidential elections in the West Bank and Gaza? |
| Yes  | 86.8% | 95.6% | 90.1% |
| No  | 8.8% | 4.2% | 7.1% |
| Don’t know | 4.4% | 0.2% | 2.8% |

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | West Bank | Gaza | Total |
| If national unity talks fail, would you support the conduct of elections in just the West Bank? |
| Yes  | 49.5% | 31.1% | 42.6% |
| No  | 43.1% | 66.0% | 51.7% |
| Don’t know | 7.4% | 2.9% | 5.7% |

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | West Bank | Gaza | Total |
| Do you believe that Fatah is serious about wanting elections? |
| Serious | 35.8% | 69.8% | 48.5% |
| Serious to some extent | 38.6% | 22.2% | 32.4% |
| Not serious to some extent | 10.3% | 4.4% | 8.1% |
| Not serious | 7.9% | 2.7% | 5.9% |
| Don’t know | 7.5% | 0.9% | 5.0% |

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | West Bank | Gaza | Total |
| Do you believe the Hamas is serious about wanting elections? |
| Serious | 26.6% | 52.4% | 36.3% |
| Serious to some extent | 38.5% | 26.4% | 33.9% |
| Not serious to some extent | 15.9% | 12.4% | 14.6% |
| Not serious | 9.2% | 8.0% | 8.8% |
| Don’t know | 9.9% | 0.7% | 6.4% |

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | West Bank | Gaza | Total |
| If elections were held today, would you vote? |
| Yes | 68.1% | 88.7% | 75.8% |
| No | 16.6% | 6.7% | 12.8% |
| Not sure | 15.4% | 4.7% | 11.3% |

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | West Bank | Gaza | Total |
| If elections took place today and the following lists ran, which one would you vote for? |
| Fatah | 37.7% | 46.0% | 40.8% |
| Hamas | 8.9% | 20.9% | 13.4% |
| PFLP | 2.0% | 2.0% | 2.0% |
| ALMubadara (PNI) | 1.9% | 2.0% | 1.9% |
| Islamic Jihad | 0.5% | 2.4% | 1.3% |
| DFLP | 1.5% | 0.7% | 1.2% |
| Hizb Tahrir | 0.3% |   | 0.2% |
| PPP | 0.4% |   | 0.3% |
| Fida | --- | --- | -- |
| Palestinian struggle Front | 0.1% | 0.2% | 0.2% |
| Other | 0.9% | 2.4% | 1.5% |
| I did not decide yet | 28.9% | 16.9% | 24.4% |
| I will not vote | 16.8% | 6.4% | 12.9% |

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|  | West Bank | Gaza | Total |
| President Abbas has publicly said in the past that he does not want to stand for reelection. If presidential elections are held later in the year as a result of successful reconciliation efforts, do you think Abbas will run again? |
| Yes | 53.4% | 50.4% | 52.3% |
| No | 23.0% | 32.7% | 26.6% |
| Not sure | 23.6% | 16.9% | 21.1% |

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | West Bank | Gaza | Total |
| Do you think that President Abbas should run again? |
| Yes | 50.2% | 48.2% | 49.5% |
| No | 33.5% | 44.9% | 37.8% |
| Don’t know | 16.3% | 6.9% | 12.8% |

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | West Bank | Gaza | Total |
| If only the following two candidates ran for presidential elections, who would you vote for? |
| Mahmoud Abbas | 46.3% | 52.9% | 48.8% |
| Khaled Mishal | 13.6% | 25.1% | 17.9% |
| Don’t know | 17.2% | 7.3% | 13.5% |
| Will not vote | 22.8% | 14.7% | 19.8% |

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | West Bank | Gaza | Total |
| If only the following two candidates ran for presidential elections, who would you vote for? |
| Mahmoud Abbas | 45.6% | 52.9% | 48.3% |
| Ismael Haniyeh | 13.9% | 25.3% | 18.2% |
| Don’t know | 17.7% | 7.3% | 13.8% |
| Will not vote | 22.8% | 14.4% | 19.7% |

|  |
| --- |
| **Sample Distribution(%)** |
| **District** | **Gender** |
| Jenin | 6.7 | Male | 50.3 |
| Tulkarm | 5.0 | Female | 49.8 |
| Qalqilya | 1.7 | **Age** |
| Nablus | 8.3 | 18-30 | 53.5 |
| Salfit | 1.6 | 31-40 | 28.7 |
| Tubas | 1.6 | 41+ | 17.8 |
| Ramallah &Al Bireh | 8.3 | **Marital Status** |
| Jerusalem | 10.0 | Single | 26.8 |
| Jericho | 1.8 | Married | 69.0 |
| Bethlehem | 4.8 | Other | 4.2 |
| Hebron | 12.8 | **Refugee status** |
| Jabalya | 7.2 | Refugee | 45.3 |
| Gaza | 14.6 | Non-refugee | 54.7 |
| DeirAlBalah | 5.3 | **Educational level** |
| KhanYunis | 5.3 | Up to 9 years | 25.3 |
| Rafah | 5.3 | Secondary (10-12) | 36.8 |
| **Residence** | More than 12 years | 37.9 |
| City | 52.2 | **Occupation** |
| Village | 23.8 | Laborer | 12.3 |
| Camp | 24.0 | Employee | 16.0 |
| **Work Sector** | Farmer | 1.3 |
| Government | 30.5 | Merchant | 5.8 |
| Private | 61.1 | Professional | 0.5 |
| NGOs | 4.1 | Craftsman | 3.6 |
| Other | 4.3 | Student | 15.3 |
| **Income** | Housewife | 34.4 |
| Above average | 14.5 | Does not work | 9.3 |
| Average | 60.6 | Retired | 1.5 |
| Below average | 24.9 |  |
| **Region** |
| West Bank | 62.5 |
| Gaza | 37.5 |