

**The Peace Index– May 2011 (#2)**  
**After Prime Minister Netanyahu's May 2011 Visit to the U.S.**  
(N=602)  
29-30.5.2011

1. **The Palestinians are again saying that given the lack of progress in negotiations, in September 2011, they will declare an independent Palestinian state based on the 1967 borders even without an agreement with Israel, and will ask the UN General Assembly to recognize it. In your estimation, what are the chances that they will indeed do so?**

	<b>General Public</b>	<b>Jews</b>	<b>Arabs</b>
1. Very high chances	22.3	23.7	14.4
2. Moderately high chances	39.0	41.3	25.6
3. Moderately low chances	22.8	20.4	36.7
4. Very low chances	12.1	10.3	22.2
5. I don't know\ refuse to answer	3.9	4.4	1.1

2. **American President Barack Obama recently made it clear several times that a unilateral declaration of independence by the Palestinians without an agreement with Israel would be a grave mistake and there would not be a majority for it in the United Nations. In your opinion, will or will not these statements by Obama cause the Palestinians to retract their decision to unilaterally declare a state in September?**

	<b>General Public</b>	<b>Jews</b>	<b>Arabs</b>
1. I'm sure Obama's statements will cause the Palestinians to retract their decision	5.9	4.9	11.1
2. I think Obama's statements will cause the Palestinians to retract their decision	19.1	18.6	22.2
3. I think Obama's statements won't cause the Palestinians to retract their decision	43.7	42.2	52.2
4. I'm sure Obama's statements won't cause the Palestinians to retract their decision	26.9	29.7	11.1
5. I don't know\ refuse to answer	4.4	4.6	3.3

**3. In your opinion, could Israel or could it not have prevented the Palestinian push for UN recognition of an independent state if it had shown greater flexibility in the political negotiations in recent years?**

	General Public	Jews	Arabs
1. I'm sure it could have	15.4	13.4	26.7
2. I think it could have	23.1	22.0	28.9
3. I think it could not have	25.9	26.0	25.6
4. I'm sure it could not have	32.2	35.3	14.4
5. I don't know\ refuse to answer	3.5	3.3	4.4

**4. In your opinion, will there or will there not be a large majority of states in the UN General Assembly that recognizes the Palestinian state, even if Israel opposes it?**

	General Public	Jews	Arabs
1. There will be a large majority	67.8	71.3	47.8
2. There will not be a large majority	26.3	22.2	50.0
3. I don't know\ refuse to answer	5.8	6.5	2.2

**5. How would you describe the position of American President Barack Obama toward Israel and the Palestinians in light of his speeches during the past week?**

	General Public	Jews	Arabs
1. More pro-Israel	22.7	14.2	71.1
2. More pro-Palestinian	27.7	31.0	8.9
3. Balanced	40.5	44.6	16.7
4. I don't know\ refuse to answer	9.1	10.1	3.3

**6. How would you describe the position that Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu presented during his recent visit to the United States?**

	General Public	Jews	Arabs
1. Too tough	28.8	20.9	73.3
2. Balanced	55.0	61.4	18.9
3. Too soft	7.8	9.0	1.1
4. I don't know\ refuse to answer	8.4	8.7	6.7

**7. Did Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu's latest visit to the United States, including his meeting with President Obama and his speeches to the AIPAC convention and to the U.S. Congress, contribute to or damage Israel's interests from the following standpoints?**

**7.1 The relations between the two leaders**

	General Public	Jews	Arabs
1. Contributed	44.1	42.7	52.2
2. Damaged	21.6	17.7	43.3
3. I don't know\ refuse to answer	7.4	8.0	4.4
4. Did not change	26.8	31.6	

**7.2 U.S. support for Israeli policy**

	General Public	Jews	Arabs
1. Contributed	55.9	53.8	67.8
2. Damaged	13.9	11.2	28.9
3. I don't know\ refuse to answer	8.4	9.3	3.3
4. Did not change	21.9	25.7	

**7.3 The chances of peace negotiations between Israel and the Palestinians**

	General Public	Jews	Arabs
1. Contributed	22.6	20.6	34.4
2. Damaged	29.1	23.8	58.9
3. I don't know\ refuse to answer	10.2	10.8	6.7
4. Did not change	38.1	44.7	

**7.4 The possibility that the Palestinians will give up their plan to declare an independent state in September**

	General Public	Jews	Arabs
1. Contributed	17.9	17.5	20.0
2. Damaged	34.3	27.8	71.1
3. I don't know\ refuse to answer	9.5	9.6	8.9
4. Did not change	38.3	45.1	

**7.5 The chances that the Palestinians will have a majority in the UN if they unilaterally declare a state and request UN recognition for it**

	General Public	Jews	Arabs
1. Contributed	29.6	29.3	31.1
2. Damaged	25.7	20.5	55.6
3. I don't know\ refuse to answer	12.5	12.3	13.3
4. Did not change	32.2	37.8	

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**8. What is your position on holding peace negotiations between Israel and the Palestinian Authority?**

	General Public	Jews	Arabs
6. Strongly in favor	32.2	27.5	59.0
7. Moderately in favor	34.9	36.7	24.5
8. Moderately opposed	16.7	17.6	12.1
9. Strongly opposed	13.5	15.2	3.3
10. I don't know\ refuse to answer	2.7	3.0	4.4

**9. Do you believe or not believe that negotiations between Israel and the Palestinian Authority will lead to peace between Israel and the Palestinians in the coming years?**

	General Public	Jews	Arabs
1. Strongly believe	6.9	4.6	20.0
2. Moderately believe	23.5	21.9	32.3
3. Moderately don't believe	27.7	29.4	17.8
4. Don't believe at all	41.5	43.6	29.9
5. I don't know\ refuse to answer	0.3	0.4	

**10. The Palestinians are again saying that given the lack of progress in negotiations, in September 2011, they will declare an independent Palestinian state based on the 1967 borders even without an agreement with Israel, and will ask the UN General Assembly to recognize it. In your estimation, what are the chances that they will indeed do so?**

	General Public	Jews	Arabs
1. Very high chances	19.4	19.9	16.7
2. Moderately high chances	40.9	44.0	23.2
3. Moderately low chances	24.7	23.4	32.3
4. Very low chances	11.6	9.6	23.4
5. Don't know/ Refuse to answer	3.4	3.2	4.5

**11. In your opinion, could Israel or could it not have prevented the Palestinian push for UN recognition of an independent state if it had shown greater flexibility in the political negotiations in recent years?**

	General Public	Jews	Arabs
1. I'm sure it could have	15.0	13.3	24.5
2. I think it could have	27.2	26.3	32.3
3. I think it could not have	26.0	26.4	23.2
4. I'm sure it could not have	26.6	28.5	15.6
5. Don't know/ Refuse to answer	5.2	5.4	4.4

**12. In your opinion, will there or will there not be a large majority of states in the UN General Assembly that recognizes the Palestinian state, even if Israel opposes it?**

	General Public	Jews	Arabs
1. There will be a large majority	74.3	75.4	67.7
2. There will not be a large majority	21.4	20.1	28.9
3. I don't know\ refuse to answer	4.3	4.5	3.3

**13. In your opinion, will the United States recognize or not recognize an independent Palestinian state if there is a vote on this matter at the UN, even if at that time there is no agreement between Israel and the Palestinians and the Israeli government is opposed to this move?**

	General Public	Jews	Arabs
1. I think the U.S. will recognize it	32.9	32.6	34.5
2. I think the U.S. will not recognize it	57.6	57.2	59.9
3. Don't know/ Refuse to answer	9.4	10.1	5.5

**14. To what extent will UN recognition of an independent Palestinian state damage, benefit, or neither damage nor benefit Israeli interests?**

	General Public	Jews	Arabs
1. Damage	58.1	64.0	24.5
2. Neither damage nor benefit	29.2	27.1	41.2
3. Benefit	9.7	5.8	32.1
4. Don't know/ Refuse to answer	3.0	3.2	2.2

**15. And if there is a Palestinian declaration of independence without an agreement with Israel, and a UN majority recognizes the Palestinian state, in your opinion will Israel then be able or not be able to allow itself to refrain from recognizing the independent Palestinian state?**

	General Public	Jews	Arabs
1. I'm sure it will be able to allow itself to refrain from recognizing	20.7	20.1	24.5
2. I think it will be able to allow itself to refrain from recognizing	28.1	28.0	28.8
3. I think it will not be able to allow itself to refrain from recognizing	29.6	31.3	20.0
4. I'm sure it will not be able to allow itself to refrain from recognizing	15.4	15.5	14.5
5. Don't know/ Refuse to answer	6.2	5.1	12.2

**16. And from what you know about the current Israeli government, in your opinion, will it recognize or not recognize a Palestinian state in the event that such a declaration is made and receives the support of most of the states in the UN?**

	General Public	Jews	Arabs
1. It will recognize it	23.6	22.5	30.1
2. It will not recognize it	70.2	71.2	64.4
3. Don't know/ Refuse to answer	6.2	6.3	5.6

**17. Assuming that it is not too late, in your opinion, should Israel or should it not significantly moderate its political positions in its dealings with the Palestinians over the coming months so as to prevent a Palestinian declaration of independence without an agreement between Israel and the Palestinians?**

	General Public	Jews	Arabs
1. Israel should moderate its positions	40.0	36.5	59.9
2. Israel should not moderate its positions	55.0	59.7	27.8
3. Don't know/ Refuse to answer	5.0	3.8	12.3

**18. And what, in your opinion, are the chances that if Israel indeed moderates its positions significantly in its dealings with the Palestinians, the latter will not declare an independent state in September nor seek UN recognition if an agreement with Israel has not yet been reached?**

	General Public	Jews	Arabs
1. Very high chances	7.3	5.4	18.0
2. Moderately high chances	23.6	21.0	38.1
3. Moderately low chances	30.7	31.7	24.8
4. Very low chances	30.2	32.7	15.8
5. Don't know/ Refuse to answer	8.3	9.1	3.4

**19. It emerged from Prime Minister Netanyahu's speech to the Knesset that Israel will insist on retaining the large settlement blocs in the West Bank and on retaining military control of the Jordan Valley. In other words, Israel would be prepared to evacuate the rest of the settlements in the West Bank and the Jordan Valley. What is your view of Netanyahu's position on this matter?**

	General Public	Jews	Arabs
1. This position is not sufficient to advance the peace process	23.6	17.0	61.0
2. The position is appropriate	31.8	33.1	24.5
3. The position is too conciliatory and dangerous to Israel	36.5	41.3	8.9
4. Don't know/ Refuse to answer	8.0	8.5	5.6

**20. If there is a Palestinian declaration of independence in September, and most of the states in the UN General Assembly recognize the new state but Israel announces that it does not accept the decision, in your opinion is there or is there not a chance that the international community will exert substantial pressure on Israel to withdraw from the West Bank, for example, by imposing painful economic sanctions or other to cause Israel to leave the territories?**

	General Public	Jews	Arabs
1. There is a high chance of substantial pressure on Israel	33.0	33.2	32.3
2. There is somewhat of a chance of substantial pressure	39.9	40.7	35.6
3. There is a low chance of substantial pressure	14.5	13.4	21.0
4. There is no chance at all of substantial pressure	10.2	10.5	8.9
5. Don't know/ Refuse to answer	2.3	2.3	2.2

**21. In your opinion, what are the chances that a popular intifada will break out in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip if an independent Palestinian state is declared and a majority of UN states recognize it, but Israel does not withdraw from the West Bank?**

	General Public	Jews	Arabs
1. Very high chances	26.1	26.4	24.3
2. Moderately high chances	42.8	43.6	37.8
3. Moderately low chances	22.1	21.6	24.5
4. Very low chances	4.8	4.1	8.9
5. Don't know/ Refuse to answer	4.2	4.2	4.4

**22. In your opinion, do the events of Nakba day this past Sunday signal or not signal the beginning of a popular intifada that also includes Palestinians and Arabs living in the Arab countries bordering Israel?**

	General Public	Jews	Arabs
1. I think they signal the beginning of an intifada	49.0	49.8	44.5
2. I think they do not signal it	45.0	45.5	42.1
3. Don't know/ Refuse to answer	6.0	4.8	13.3

**23. If there is a declaration of an independent Palestinian state, could Israel prevent such intifada-type events if Netanyahu presents a political program that could lead to negotiations with the Palestinians? Or at this stage, is it impossible to prevent such intifada-type events?**

	General Public	Jews	Arabs
1. Such events can be prevented if a political program is presented	39.8	38.6	46.8
2. Such events cannot be prevented in any case	53.2	54.2	47.7
3. Don't know/ Refuse to answer	6.9	7.2	5.6

**24. In your opinion, will the Palestinian leadership try to prevent or, alternatively, encourage the outbreak of a third intifada in the event that an independent Palestinian state is declared?**

	<b>General Public</b>	<b>Jews</b>	<b>Arabs</b>
1. The Palestinian leadership will try to prevent it	36.1	33.7	49.9
2. The Palestinian leadership will encourage it	56.1	58.2	44.5
3. Don't know/ Refuse to answer	7.7	8.1	5.6

**25. Did the army commander on the Golan Heights who gave an order to refrain from firing potentially lethal shots act properly, or should everything have been done to prevent the infiltration into Israel, including the firing of potentially lethal fire?**

	<b>General Public</b>	<b>Jews</b>	<b>Arabs</b>
1. He acted properly in giving the order	57.1	62.2	27.8
2. Everything should have been done, including the firing of potentially lethal fire	34.2	30.7	54.4
3. Moderately low chances	8.7	7.2	17.8

