

ARE MOST AMERICANS ZIONISTS? EXAMINING AMERICAN OPINION ON JEWISH AND PALESTINIAN SELF-DETERMINATION

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INTRODUCTION AND METHODOLOGY

Are most Americans Zionists? A survey conducted by Leger USA for the Metropolis Institute reveals that 54% of Americans agree that Jews have a right to self-determination in Israel (generally regarded as the text book definition of Zionism). The Leger USA-Metropolis survey further reveals that more Americans recognize the right of Jews to self-determination in Israel than they do for Palestinians in the West Bank and Gaza at 41%. The latter observation is true for all major demographics with the exception of Americans age 18-29 for whom a higher percentage believe that the Palestinians have a right to self-determination (36%) in the West Bank and Gaza compared to Jews in Israel (31%).

The survey was conducted prior to the US elections (over the period September 27-29, 2024 with a sample of 1006 Americans) Yet, the results provide a key insight into the country's strong commitment to the Jewish state as Americans wait to see how President elect Trump manages the very volatile situation in the region.

A margin of error cannot be associated with a non-probability sample in a panel survey for comparison purposes. A probability sample of 1006 respondents would have a margin of error of $\pm 2.5\%$, 19 times out of 20

AMERICANS ARE MORE LIKELY TO SAY THAT JEWS HAVE A RIGHT TO SELF-DETERMINATION IN ISRAEL THAN THEY SAY THAT PALESTINIANS HAVE A RIGHT TO SELF-DETERMINATION IN THE WEST BANK / GAZA

	Jews have a right to self-determination in Israel.	Palestinians have a right to self-determination in the West Bank / Gaza
Yes	54%	41%
No	11%	15%
I don't know / I prefer not to answer	35%	44%
Total	100%	100%

A MAJORITY OF AMERICANS BELIEVE THAT JEWS HAVE A RIGHT TO SELF-DETERMINATION IN ISRAEL THOUGH YOUNGEST COHORT SEES THINGS OTHERWISE

	Total	18-29	30-39	40-49	50-64	65 +
Jews have a right to self-determination in Israel.	54%	31%	51%	47%	60%	78%
Palestinians have a right to self-determination in the West Bank / Gaza	41%	36%	41%	39%	37%	51%

MIDWESTERN AMERICANS ARE FAR MORE LIKELY TO AGREE THAT JEWS HAVE A RIGHT TO SELF-DETERMINATION IN ISRAEL

	Total	NE	MW	South	West
Jews have a right to self-determination in Israel.	54%	59%	61%	52%	49%
Palestinians have a right to self-determination in the West Bank / Gaza	41%	47%	38%	40%	40%

AMERICANS WITH HIGHER LEVELS OF EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT MORE LIKELY TO AGREE THAT JEWS HAVE A RIGHT TO SELF-DETERMINATION IN ISRAEL

Column %	HS or less	Coll. +
Jews have a right to self-determination in Israel	43%	62%
Palestinians have a right to self-determination in the West Bank / Gaza	30%	48%

AMONGST THOSE WHO SAY THEY ARE PROUD TO BE AMERICAN AT AT A RATIO OF OVER SIX TO ONE THEY BELIEVE JEWS HAVE A RIGHT TO SELF-DETERMINATION IN ISRAEL WHILE THOSE NOT PROUD TO BE AMERICAN ARE DIVIDED ON THE ISSUE

Jews have a right to self-determination in Israel.	I am proud to be American	
	Yes	No
Yes	60%	37%
No	8%	36%
I don't know / I prefer not to answer	32%	27%
Total	100%	100%

FOREIGN BORN AMERICANS ARE MORE LIKELY TO THINK THAT JEWS HAVE A RIGHT TO SELF-DETERMINATION IN ISRAEL THAN PALESTINIANS DO IN THE WEST BANK AND GAZA BUT IN EACH CASE A MAJORITY BELIEVE THEY BOTH HAVE SUCH A RIGHT

	Jews have a right to self-determination in Israel	Palestinians have a right to self-determination in the West Bank / Gaza
Born outside the USA		
YES	60%	55%
NO	10%	8%
I don't know	30%	37%
Total	100%	100%

AMERICANS IDENTIFYING AS BLACK ARE MORE LIKELY TO AGREE THAT JEWS HAVE A RIGHT TO SELF-DETERMINATION IN ISRAEL THAN DO PALESTINIANS IN THE WEST BANK AND GAZA

	Americans identifying as Black	
	Jews have a right to self-determination in Israel. -	Palestinians have a right to self-determination in the West Bank / Gaza
Yes	50%	42%
No	18%	19%
I don't know / I prefer not to answer	32%	38%
Total	100%	100%

NATIVE AMERICANS (INDIGENOUS PERSONS) ARE SOMEWHAT MORE LIKELY TO THINK THAT JEWS HAVE A RIGHT TO SELF-DETERMINATION IN ISRAEL THAN DO PALESTINANS IN THE WEST BANK AND GAZA

	Native American	
	Jews have a right to self-determination in Israel. -	Palestinians have a right to self-determination in the West Bank / Gaza
Yes	41%	32%
No	8%	10%
I don't know / I prefer not to answer	51%	58%
Total	100%	100%

AMONGST THOSE AMERICANS THAT DO NOT BELIEVE JEWS HAVE A RIGHT TO SELF-DETERMINATION IN ISRAEL, OVER ONE IN SIX THINK THAT JEWS EXAGGERATE THE HOLOCAUST

Jews exaggerate the Holocaust / Shoah.	Jews have a right to self-determination in Israel.	
	Yes	No
Yes	8%	17%
No	83%	69%
I don't know / I prefer not to answer	9%	14%
Total	100%	100%