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Are we Peace-Keepers: to what extent do Canadians feel directly affected by global conflicts?

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Introduction

Some Canadians have described peace-keeping as an important feature of our identity. This view has persisted despite a decline in active peacekeeping contributions since the late 1990s. It arises from the legacy of significant involvement in UN missions some decades ago. Given the state of global conflict notably in Russia and the Ukraine and Israel and Gaza it is worth asking whether Canadians would be willing to send peacekeepers to those areas in the event they would be needed. Underlying that question is the extent to which Canadians feel directly affected by the conflicts. To provide insights the Association for Canadian Studies asked Leger Marketing to survey Canadians on these matters. In that regard,

-A majority of Canadians agree with sending peacekeepers to the region in the event of an agreement between Russia and Ukraine

-A majority of Canadians oppose the idea of sending peacekeepers to the region in the event of an agreement between Israelis and Palestinians

-A majority of Canadians agree that they feel less directly affected by the war between Russia and Ukraine than do Europeans and Americans; younger Canadians feel much less affected than older ones

-A majority of Canadians say they feel less directly affected by the conflict between Israelis and Palestinians than do Americans. Two-thirds of Canadians 18-24 say they feel less affected

Leger conducted the survey via web panel for the Association for Canadian Studies between August 29 and August 31, 2025. While no margin of error can be associated with a non-probability sample (Web panel in this case). However for comparative purposes, a probability sample of 1621 respondents would have a margin of error of $\pm 2.52\%$, 19 times out of 20.

Canadian Support for Peace Keeping

A majority of Canadians agree with sending peacekeepers to the region in the event of an agreement between Russia and Ukraine; Majority of Candians under 54 disagree

If a peace agreement is reached between Russia and Ukraine, Canada should consider sending peacekeepers even if it involves risks to their safety.	Total	Male	Female	Between 18 and 24		Between 25 and 34		Between 35 and 44		Between 45 and 54		Between 55 and 64		65+	
NET AGREE	53%	60%	47%		48%		44%		51%		48%		55%		66%
Strongly agree	15%	21%	9%		19%		14%		8%		13%		17%		21%
Somewhat agree	38%	38%	38%		28%		31%		43%		35%		38%		46%
NET DISAGREE	47%	40%	53%		52%		56%		49%		52%		45%		34%
Somewhat disagree	30%	23%	37%		35%		41%		28%		31%		30%		20%
Strongly disagree	17%	17%	16%		17%		15%		21%		21%		15%		13%

A majority of Canadians agree with sending peacekeepers to the region in the event of an agreement between Russia and Ukraine; Majority of Canadians under 54 disagree

If a peace agreement is reached between Russia and Ukraine, Canada should consider sending peacekeepers even if it involves risks to their safety.	Total	Male	Female	Age Group					
				Between 18 and 24	Between 25 and 34	Between 35 and 44	Between 45 and 54	Between 55 and 64	65+
NET AGREE	53%	60%	47%	48%	44%	51%	48%	55%	66%
Strongly agree	15%	21%	9%	19%	14%	8%	13%	17%	21%
Somewhat agree	38%	38%	38%	28%	31%	43%	35%	38%	46%
NET DISAGREE	47%	40%	53%	52%	56%	49%	52%	45%	34%
Somewhat disagree	30%	23%	37%	35%	41%	28%	31%	30%	20%
Strongly disagree	17%	17%	16%	17%	15%	21%	21%	15%	13%

Albertans are least likely to support sending peacekeepers to the region in the event a peace agreement is reached between Russia and Ukraine

If a peace agreement is reached between Russia and Ukraine, Canada should consider sending peacekeepers even if it involves risks to their safety.	Total	Atl.	QC	ON	MB/SK	AB	BC
NET AGREE	53%	51%	54%	53%	50%	48%	60%
Strongly agree	15%	9%	15%	16%	17%	15%	17%
Somewhat agree	38%	42%	39%	37%	33%	33%	44%
NET DISAGREE	47%	49%	46%	47%	50%	52%	40%
Somewhat disagree	30%	30%	30%	29%	34%	32%	27%
Strongly disagree	17%	20%	16%	18%	16%	20%	12%

A majority of Canadians oppose the idea of sending peacekeepers to the region in the event of an agreement between Israelis and Palestinians

If a peace agreement is reached between Israelis and Palestinians, Canada should consider sending peacekeepers even if it involves risks to their safety.	Total	Male	Female	Age Group					
				Between 18 and 24	Between 25 and 34	Between 35 and 44	Between 45 and 54	Between 55 and 64	65+
NET AGREE	47%	53%	42%	43%	49%	48%	41%	46%	53%
Strongly agree	12%	16%	9%	13%	12%	9%	11%	13%	15%
Somewhat agree	35%	37%	33%	30%	37%	40%	30%	33%	38%
NET DISAGREE	53%	47%	58%	57%	51%	52%	59%	54%	47%
Somewhat disagree	32%	26%	38%	38%	34%	28%	28%	36%	31%
Strongly disagree	20%	22%	19%	19%	17%	24%	30%	18%	16%

A narrow majority of Ontarians represent the only Canadians that would favor sending peacekeepers to the region in the conflict between Israelis and Palestinians

If a peace agreement is reached between Israelis and Palestinians, Canada should consider sending peacekeepers even if it involves risks to their safety	Total	Atl.	QC	ON	MB/SK	AB	BC
NET AGREE	47%	39%	48%	51%	41%	42%	46%
Strongly agree	12%	8%	12%	14%	11%	11%	12%
Somewhat agree	35%	31%	37%	38%	30%	31%	33%
NET DISAGREE	53%	61%	52%	49%	59%	58%	54%
Somewhat disagree	32%	39%	33%	28%	35%	30%	38%
Strongly disagree	20%	22%	18%	21%	24%	28%	16%

Do Canadians feel directly involved by the conflicts?

A majority of Canadians agree that they feel less directly affected by the war between Russia and Ukraine than do Europeans and Americans; younger Canadians feel much less affected than older ones

I feel less directly affected by the war between Russia and Ukraine than Europeans and Americans	Total	Male	Female	Between 18 and 24	Between 25 and 34	Between 35 and 44	Between 45 and 54	Between 55 and 64	65+
NET AGREE	56%	60%	53%	70%	66%	59%	59%	52%	44%
Strongly agree	16%	20%	12%	25%	23%	19%	19%	10%	7%
Somewhat agree	40%	40%	41%	44%	43%	39%	40%	42%	37%
NET DISAGREE	44%	40%	47%	30%	34%	41%	41%	48%	56%
Somewhat disagree	33%	30%	36%	19%	30%	34%	29%	38%	40%
Strongly disagree	10%	10%	11%	11%	4%	7%	12%	10%	16%

British Columbians and Quebecers feel most affected by the Russia-Ukraine war while Albertans, Ontarians and Atlantic Canadians feel least affected

I feel less directly affected by the war between Russia and Ukraine than Europeans and Americans	Total	Atl.	QC	ON	MB/SK	AB	BC
NET AGREE	56%	63%	46%	61%	58%	70%	46%
Strongly agree	16%	17%	14%	18%	16%	23%	7%
Somewhat agree	40%	46%	31%	43%	42%	46%	39%
NET DISAGREE	44%	37%	54%	39%	42%	30%	54%
Somewhat disagree	33%	30%	43%	30%	34%	22%	37%
Strongly disagree	10%	7%	12%	9%	8%	8%	17%

A majority of Canadians say they feel less directly affected by the conflict between Israelis and Palestinians than do Americans. Two-thirds of Canadians 18-24 say they feel less affected

I feel less directly affected by the conflict between Israelis and Palestinians than Americans do.	Total	Male	Female	Between 18 and 24	Between 25 and 34	Between 35 and 44	Between 45 and 54	Between 55 and 64	65+
NET AGREE	58%	59%	57%	66%	62%	65%	56%	58%	48%
Strongly agree	16%	19%	12%	20%	17%	17%	19%	16%	10%
Somewhat agree	42%	40%	45%	46%	46%	48%	37%	42%	39%
NET DISAGREE	42%	41%	43%	34%	38%	35%	44%	42%	52%
Somewhat disagree	30%	29%	31%	25%	26%	25%	28%	31%	38%
Strongly disagree	12%	12%	12%	9%	11%	10%	16%	11%	14%

Prairie Canadians, Albertans and Quebecers feel less affected by conflict between Israelis and Palestinians than of Ontarians, British Columbians and Atlantic Canadians

I feel less directly affected by the conflict between Israelis and Palestinians than Americans do.	Total	Male	Female	Between 18 and 24	Between 25 and 34	Between 35 and 44	Between 45 and 54	Between 55 and 64	65+
NET AGREE	58%	59%	57%	66%	62%	65%	56%	58%	48%
Strongly agree	16%	19%	12%	20%	17%	17%	19%	16%	10%
Somewhat agree	42%	40%	45%	46%	46%	48%	37%	42%	39%
NET DISAGREE	42%	41%	43%	34%	38%	35%	44%	42%	52%
Somewhat disagree	30%	29%	31%	25%	26%	25%	28%	31%	38%
Strongly disagree	12%	12%	12%	9%	11%	10%	16%	11%	14%

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