



PUBLIC POLL FINDINGS AND METHODOLOGY

Americans support working with North Korea and China to change the current status quo

New American Friends Service Committee/Ipsos Poll finds majority want to work with countries like North Korea and China to change the climate of their relationship.

Topline Findings

Washington, DC, September 30, 2021 -- A new American Friends Service Committee/Ipsos poll finds that Americans believe the U.S. government should work with other countries to strengthen our relationship and reduce tensions. Additionally, Americans are in favor of lifting U.S. imposed sanctions for various reasons.

Detailed Findings

1. Americans are willing to work with North Korea on various matters.
 - Nearly three quarters of Americans believe the U.S. government should work with North Korea to repatriate the remains of U.S. service members that were left in North Korea after The Korean War (70%).
 - Almost two in three Americans say the U.S. government should work with North Korea to reunite Korean Americans and their North Korean family members (62%).
 - Many Americans say they believe the U.S. government should work with North Korea in some manner
2. Nearly half of Americans are in favor of lifting sanctions.
 - Male Americans are more in favor of the U.S. government continuing to impose sanctions (43%) than females (22%)
 - Parents are more likely to be in favor of lifting sanctions
3. Most Americans are in favor of the U.S government engaging in talks with China.
 - Almost two thirds of Americans say the U.S. should engage in dialogue as much as possible to reduce tensions (62%).
 - Over half of Americans believe the U.S. should restart dialogue with China (55%).



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These are the findings of an Ipsos poll conducted between September 24-27, 2021 on behalf of American Friends Service Committee. For this survey, a sample of 1,004 adults age 18+ from the continental U.S., Alaska, and Hawaii was interviewed online in English. The poll has a credibility interval of plus or minus 3.5 percentage points for all respondents.

For full results, please refer to the following annotated questionnaire:

Full Annotated Questionnaire

[TEXT SCREEN]

The United States and North Korea have remained in a state of war for over 70 years because the active fighting of the Korean War was stopped with a temporary ceasefire (or armistice) and not a peace treaty in 1953; South Korea promised to observe the cease-fire, but it did not sign because it held out hopes of unifying the Korean Peninsula. The ceasefire was intended to be a temporary measure until a final agreement could be made at a conference in Geneva held the following year, however, at the end of the conference no agreement had been reached; talks between the U.S. and North Korea to end the war were never restarted.

Over the past 70 years, both sides have committed violations to the armistice. The U.S. first violated the agreement by stationing nuclear weapons on the Korean Peninsula in 1957 and, later, North Korea unilaterally announced it no longer abided by the ceasefire beginning in 1994. A state of war between the U.S. and North Korea continues to this day.

1. **[50% of respondents]** Which of the following actions do you think the U.S. government should take with respect to the Korean War? Please select the statement that most closely represents your views, even if neither is exactly right.

	Total (N=502)
The U.S. government should end the Korean War by signing a peace agreement	41%
The U.S. government should continue a state of war and a military presence on the Korean peninsula	24%
Don't know	35%

2. **[50% of respondents]** Which of the following actions do you think the U.S. government should take with respect to the Korean War? Please select the statement that most closely represents your views, even if neither is exactly right.

	Total (N=502)
The U.S. government should end the Korean War	39%





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The U.S. government should continue a state of war and a military presence on the Korean peninsula	31%
Don't know	30%

3. Here are a list of possible steps that the U.S. government can take to engage with North Korea diplomatically. How much do you agree or disagree that the U.S. government should take the following diplomatic actions with respect to North Korea?

Total Agree Summary

	Total (N=1004)
The U.S. government should establish a diplomatic presence in North Korea, such as a liaison office	52%
The U.S. government should work with North Korea to reunite Korean Americans and their North Korean family members	62%
The U.S. government should work with North Korea to repatriate the remains of U.S. service members that were left in North Korea after the Korean War	70%
The U.S. government should allow privately-funded charities to deliver humanitarian assistance to the people of North Korea	56%
The U.S. government should allow colleges, universities, and privately-funded educational organizations to conduct people-to-people exchange programs between students and scientists	50%
The U.S. government should allow U.S. and North Korean faith and religious communities to conduct people-to-people exchanges between leaders and members of these communities	50%

- a) The U.S. government should establish a diplomatic presence in North Korea, such as a liaison office

	Total (N=1004)
Strongly Agree	14%
Somewhat Agree	38%
Somewhat Disagree	15%
Strongly Disagree	9%
Don't Know	24%
<i>Total Agree (net)</i>	<i>52%</i>
<i>Total Disagree (net)</i>	<i>24%</i>



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3. Here are a list of possible steps that the U.S. government can take to engage with North Korea diplomatically. How much do you agree or disagree that the U.S. government should take the following diplomatic actions with respect to North Korea?

- b) The U.S. government should work with North Korea to reunite Korean Americans and their North Korean family members

	Total (N=1004)
Strongly Agree	23%
Somewhat Agree	38%
Somewhat Disagree	14%
Strongly Disagree	6%
Don't Know	19%
<i>Total Agree (net)</i>	62%
<i>Total Disagree (net)</i>	19%

- c) The U.S. government should work with North Korea to repatriate the remains of U.S. service members that were left in North Korea after the Korean War

	Total (N=1004)
Strongly Agree	40%
Somewhat Agree	30%
Somewhat Disagree	9%
Strongly Disagree	4%
Don't Know	17%
<i>Total Agree (net)</i>	70%
<i>Total Disagree (net)</i>	13%

- d) The U.S. government should allow privately-funded charities to deliver humanitarian assistance to the people of North Korea

	Total (N=1004)
Strongly Agree	19%
Somewhat Agree	36%
Somewhat Disagree	16%
Strongly Disagree	9%
Don't Know	20%
<i>Total Agree (net)</i>	56%
<i>Total Disagree (net)</i>	24%



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3. Here are a list of possible steps that the U.S. government can take to engage with North Korea diplomatically. How much do you agree or disagree that the U.S. government should take the following diplomatic actions with respect to North Korea?

e) The U.S. government should allow colleges, universities, and privately-funded educational organizations to conduct people-to-people exchange programs between students and scientists

	Total (N=1004)
Strongly Agree	17%
Somewhat Agree	33%
Somewhat Disagree	18%
Strongly Disagree	11%
Don't Know	21%
<i>Total Agree (net)</i>	50%
<i>Total Disagree (net)</i>	29%

f) The U.S. government should allow U.S. and North Korean faith and religious communities to conduct people-to-people exchanges between leaders and members of these communities

	Total (N=1004)
Strongly Agree	14%
Somewhat Agree	36%
Somewhat Disagree	17%
Strongly Disagree	8%
Don't Know	24%
<i>Total Agree (net)</i>	50%
<i>Total Disagree (net)</i>	25%

4. How much do you agree or disagree that economic sanctions are effective at bringing targeted countries to the negotiating table?

	Total (N=1004)
Strongly Agree	13%
Somewhat Agree	39%
Somewhat Disagree	16%
Strongly Disagree	6%
Don't Know	26%
<i>Total Agree (net)</i>	52%
<i>Total Disagree (net)</i>	22%



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5. How much do you agree or disagree that economic sanctions help stop targeted countries from producing weapons of mass destruction?

	Total (N=1004)
Strongly Agree	13%
Somewhat Agree	28%
Somewhat Disagree	21%
Strongly Disagree	14%
Don't Know	24%
<i>Total Agree (net)</i>	42%
<i>Total Disagree (net)</i>	35%

6. How much do you agree or disagree that economic sanctions reduce human rights violations in targeted countries?

	Total (N=1004)
Strongly Agree	11%
Somewhat Agree	24%
Somewhat Disagree	23%
Strongly Disagree	14%
Don't Know	28%
<i>Total Agree (net)</i>	35%
<i>Total Disagree (net)</i>	37%

7. How much do you agree or disagree that economic sanctions help stop or avoid military conflict between the country that imposes sanctions and the countries that are the targets of sanctions?

	Total (N=1004)
Strongly Agree	12%
Somewhat Agree	27%
Somewhat Disagree	22%
Strongly Disagree	9%
Don't Know	30%
<i>Total Agree (net)</i>	39%
<i>Total Disagree (net)</i>	31%





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[TEXT SCREEN]

Many United Nations officials have pointed out that broad unilateral sanctions imposed by the U.S. are considered illegal under international law, violate human rights principles, and are contrary to international norms. These measures may violate the UN Charter, the U.N.'s Declaration on the Principles of International Law, Article 22 of the Additional Protocols to the Geneva Conventions, and other international legal instruments.

8. How much do you agree or disagree with the following statements?

Total Agree Summary

	Total (N=1004)
The U.S. should lift sanctions if they violate international legal principles	48%
The U.S. should lift sanctions if they interfere with humanitarian aid and COVID-19 relief efforts	53%
The U.S. should lift sanctions if they damage economic activity and livelihoods of ordinary citizens	49%
The U.S. should continue to impose sanctions even if they are illegal under international law and can hurt access to food and medicine	32%

a) The U.S. should lift sanctions if they violate international legal principles

	Total (N=1004)
Strongly Agree	15%
Somewhat Agree	33%
Somewhat Disagree	18%
Strongly Disagree	12%
Don't Know	22%
<i>Total Agree (net)</i>	48%
<i>Total Disagree (net)</i>	30%

b) The U.S. should lift sanctions if they interfere with humanitarian aid and COVID-19 relief efforts

	Total (N=1004)
Strongly Agree	17%
Somewhat Agree	36%
Somewhat Disagree	15%
Strongly Disagree	11%
Don't Know	21%
<i>Total Agree (net)</i>	53%
<i>Total Disagree (net)</i>	26%





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8. How much do you agree or disagree with the following statements?

c) The U.S. should lift sanctions if they damage economic activity and livelihoods of ordinary citizens

	Total (N=1004)
Strongly Agree	16%
Somewhat Agree	33%
Somewhat Disagree	19%
Strongly Disagree	10%
Don't Know	23%
<i>Total Agree (net)</i>	49%
<i>Total Disagree (net)</i>	28%

d) The U.S. should continue to impose sanctions even if they are illegal under international law and can hurt access to food and medicine

	Total (N=1004)
Strongly Agree	11%
Somewhat Agree	21%
Somewhat Disagree	27%
Strongly Disagree	19%
Don't Know	22%
<i>Total Agree (net)</i>	32%
<i>Total Disagree (net)</i>	46%

9. **[50% of respondents]** Prior to 2017 the U.S. government and China had a number of official dialogue processes that improved global economic stability, public health, pandemic management, climate change mitigation, and cooperation on law enforcement. Which of the following actions do you think the Biden Administration should take with respect to U.S.-China dialogue?

	Total (N=502)
The U.S. government should restart official dialogue processes with China	55%
The U.S. government should not restart official dialogue and instead spend more money on military build-up	18%
Don't know	27%



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10. **[50% of respondents]** Prior to 2017 the U.S. government and China had a number of official dialogue processes that improved global economic stability, public health, pandemic management, climate change mitigation, and cooperation on law enforcement. Which of the following actions do you think the Biden Administration should take with respect to U.S.-China dialogue?

	Total (N=502)
The U.S. government should engage in dialogue as much as possible to reduce tensions	62%
The U.S. government should not restart official dialogue and instead spend more money on military build-up	16%
Don't know	23%



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About the Study

These are some of the findings of an Ipsos poll conducted between September 24-27, 2021, on behalf of American Friends Service Committee. For this survey, a sample of 1,004 adults age 18+ from the continental U.S., Alaska, and Hawaii was interviewed online in English.

The sample for this study was randomly drawn from Ipsos' online panel (see link below for more info on "Access Panels and Recruitment"), partner online panel sources, and "river" sampling (see link below for more info on the Ipsos "Ampario Overview" sample method) and does not rely on a population frame in the traditional sense. Ipsos uses fixed sample targets, unique to each study, in drawing a sample. After a sample has been obtained from the Ipsos panel, Ipsos calibrates respondent characteristics to be representative of the U.S. Population using standard procedures such as raking-ratio adjustments. The source of these population targets is U.S. Census 2016 American Community Survey data. The sample drawn for this study reflects fixed sample targets on demographics. Posthoc weights were made to the population characteristics on gender, age, race/ethnicity, region, and education.

Statistical margins of error are not applicable to online non-probability polls. All sample surveys and polls may be subject to other sources of error, including, but not limited to coverage error and measurement error. Where figures do not sum to 100, this is due to the effects of rounding. The precision of Ipsos online polls is measured using a credibility interval. In this case, the poll has a credibility interval of plus or minus 3.5 percentage points for all respondents. Ipsos calculates a design effect (DEFF) for each study based on the variation of the weights, following the formula of Kish (1965). This study had a credibility interval adjusted for design effect of the following (n=1,004, DEFF=1.5, adjusted Confidence Interval=+/- 5.0 percentage points).

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Founded in France in 1975, Ipsos is listed on the Euronext Paris since July 1st, 1999. The company is part of the SBF 120 and the Mid-60 index and is eligible for the Deferred Settlement Service (SRD).

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