

# Majority (54%) of Global Citizens Support International Coalition's Airstrikes Against ISIL

*Half (48%) in 24 Country Study Feel that Airstrikes Will Eliminate ISIL as Serious Threat to Peace*

*Majority (58%) Believe it's Good for the World that the United States Feels it has Special Responsibility to Assist Countries or Peoples When Confronted by Military Aggressors*

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## **Majority (54%) of Global Citizens Support International Coalition's Airstrikes Against ISIL**

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*Majority (58%) Believe it's Good for the World that the United States Feels it has Special Responsibility to Assist Countries or Peoples When Confronted by Military Aggressors*

**Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada** – A survey of citizens in 24 countries reveals that a majority (54%) support the international coalition's airstrikes against the Islamic State in Syria and Levant ("ISIL") and half (48%) feel that the international coalition's airstrikes will eliminate them as a serious threat to peace.

The poll, conducted by global market and opinion research firm Ipsos for the Halifax International Security Forum taking place in Halifax, Canada from November 21 to 23, 2014, also found that a full majority (58%) of respondents believe it's good for the world that the United States feels it has a special responsibility to assist countries or peoples when confronted by military aggressors.

The survey also found that a majority (83%) of global citizens interviewed in the 24 countries believe that over the last year the world has become more dangerous and half (51% + 7 points since 2013 at 44%) believe their country being involved in an armed conflict with another nation is a real threat over the next 12 months—and a majority (59%) agree that given the dangers in the world, their government needs to spend more on their country's military.

Looking longer-term, two thirds (62%) of respondents indicate that they expect that in the next 25 years we could see another world conflict involving superpower similar to World Wars 1 and 2. What's perhaps striking about where the countries fall out on this is at the United States is most likely to agree with this sentiment (78%) however the protagonists in both of those wars rank second last and last out of the 24 countries



respectively – Germany 45% and Japan 40%. Notably, modern-day superpowers Russia (62%) and China (57%) fall quite a distance back behind the United States and many others.

On October 15, 2014 the United States Central Command announced that the US – led air campaign against ISIL in Iraq and Syria was henceforth designated as Operation Inherent Resolve. Airstrikes in the region by certain countries had taken place prior to this announcement and other countries followed after the announcement. The field dates for the global survey of 17,581 respondents in 24 countries straddled this announcement, beginning on October 5, 2014 and concluding on October 19, 2014. The 24 countries where respondents were surveyed were Argentina, Australia, Belgium, Brazil, Canada, China, France, Germany, Great Britain, Hungary, India, Italy, Japan, Mexico, Poland, Romania, Russia, Saudi Arabia, South Africa, South Korea, Spain, Sweden, Turkey and the United States.

*The Halifax International Security Forum is a forum and a network for thoughtful and engaged decision-makers from governments, militaries, business, academia, and the media to work together to meet emerging threats in a changing world. The annual Halifax International Security Forum brings people together in an informal setting that only a place like Halifax, Nova Scotia can provide. As one of the secrets to its success, Halifax creates an informal, unscripted, discussion-based atmosphere that encourages interactive and free-flowing exchanges. The Forum gives participants two days without distraction to focus on pressing security issues, conduct bilateral meetings, and network. The Forum is a non-profit, non-partisan organization based in Washington, D.C., and plays the role of host so government officials are free from their own hosting responsibilities and have the opportunity to focus solely on engaging with participants.*

## ***Key findings Ranked by Country...***

### ***54% Support the International Coalition's Airstrikes against the Islamic State in Syria and Levant (ISIL)...***

***Total agree (strongly/somewhat) 54% – Turkey 82%, United States 74%, India 71%, Belgium 70%, Australia 69%, France 69%, Great Britain 69%, Saudi Arabia 66%, Canada***



64%, Sweden 64%, Poland 63%, Germany 61%, South Korea 54%, South Africa 52%, China 50%, Romania 50%, Italy 46%, Hungary 44%, Japan 39%, Spain 39%, Brazil 36%, Mexico 23%, Russia 20% and Argentina 19%.

- **Strongly agree 21%** – Turkey 47%, Sweden 33%, Belgium 32%, France 32%, United States 30%, India 29%, Saudi Arabia 28%, Canada 27%, Australia 27%, Great Britain 25%, Poland 23%, Germany 23%, South Africa 22%, Romania 20%, Hungary 16%, Italy 15%, China 14%, South Korea 12%, Spain 11%, Brazil 11%, Japan 8%, Mexico 8%, Argentina 8% and Russia 6%.

***Half (48%) Feel the International Coalitions Airstrikes Against ISIL Will Eliminate Them as a Serious Threat to Peace...***

**Total agree (strongly/somewhat) 48%** – India 73%, Saudi Arabia 66%, South Korea 64%, Romania 60%, Poland 59%, China 56%, South Africa 55%, Brazil 55%, Turkey 54%, Belgium 50%, Hungary 49%, France 46%, Japan 46%, Australia 43%, Mexico 42%, Germany 42%, United States 41%, Italy 39%, Sweden 38%, Russia 37%, Canada 37%, Argentina 34%, Spain 34% and Great Britain 33%.

- **Total agree strongly 13%** – India 28%, Saudi Arabia 24%, Romania 21%, Turkey 17%, South Africa 16%, Brazil 16%, France 15%, Poland 13%, Belgium 13%, Mexico 13%, Russia 13%, South Korea 12%, Hungary 12%, Argentina 12%, Sweden 11%, China 10%, Germany 9%, United States 9%, Italy 9%, Australia 8%, Spain 8%, Japan 7%, Canada 7% and Great Britain 7%.

***Majority (58%) Believe it is Good for the World that the United States Feels it has a Special Responsibility to Assist Countries or Peoples When They are Confronted by Military Aggressors ...***

**Total agree (strongly/somewhat) 58%** – India 76%, Romania 71%, France 71%, South Africa 70%, Poland 67%, Australia 67%, Belgium 66%, South Korea 66%, Saudi Arabia 64%, Great Britain 64%, United States 64%, Brazil 62%, Canada 62%, Japan 56%, Sweden



55%, Turkey 55%, Italy 55%, Spain 54%, Hungary 52%, Germany 50%, Mexico 46%, China 42%, Argentina 34% and Russia 21%.

- **Total agree strongly 16%** – India 29%, Romania 29%, South Africa 25%, Saudi Arabia 23%, Brazil 20%, France 19%, Turkey 19%, Belgium 18%, Australia 17%, Sweden 17%, Hungary 17%, Poland 16%, Canada 16%, Great Britain 15%, Mexico 14%, Argentina 14%, United States 13%, Italy 12%, Spain 12%, South Korea 10%, China 10%, Germany 9%, Japan 7% and Russia 7%.

***Majority (83%) Say that Over the Last Year the World has Become More Dangerous...***

**Total agree (strongly/somewhat) 83%** – Turkey 91%, Saudi Arabia 87%, South Africa 87%, Poland 86%, Australia 86%, France 86%, Argentina 85%, Mexico 85%, Romania 85%, Great Britain 85%, Belgium 84%, Italy 84%, United States 84%, Spain 83%, South Korea 82%, Canada 82%, Germany 82%, India 81%, Hungary 80%, Brazil 80%, Russia 79%, Sweden 76%, China 75% and Japan 75%.

- **Total agree strongly 41%** – Turkey 64%, Argentina 58%, Mexico 55%, South Africa 50%, Romania 48%, Poland 47%, Saudi Arabia 46%, Hungary 44%, Italy 43%, United States 43%, Brazil 43%, France 42%, Belgium 42%, Russia 39%, Great Britain 38%, Sweden 38%, Australia 37%, India 37%, Germany 36%, Canada 34%, Spain 33%, Japan 23%, South Korea 19% and China 17%.

***Half (51% + 7 points since 2013 when it was 44%) Believe that their Country Being Involved in an Armed Conflict with another Nation Over the next 12 Months is a Real Threat\*...***

**Total Real Threat (very/somewhat) 51% (+7 points from 44% in 2013)**– Turkey 86% (+6), United States 82% (-4), Great Britain 81% (+16), France 78% (+20), Australia 75% (+30), Canada 62% (+23), India 60% (-5), Saudi Arabia 59% (+9), Belgium 58% (+32), Russia 57% (+12), Germany 54% (+18), Japan 51% (-7) Romania 50% (not tracked in



2013), Poland 48% (+12) South Korea 44% (-4), Italy 43% (+2), Spain 38% (+4), South Africa 32% (-4) Hungary 25% (+6), Brazil 24% (-8), Mexico 23% (-9), Argentina 20% (-7) and Sweden 16% (+8). (China N/A for this question.)

- **Total Increase/Decrease in Real Threat +7** – Belgium +32, Australia +30, France +20, Germany +18, Great Britain +16, Russia +12, Poland +12, Saudi Arabia +9, Sweden +8, Turkey +6, Hungary +6, Spain +4, Italy +2, United States -4, South Korea -4, South Africa -4, India -5, Japan -7, Argentina -7, Brazil -8 and Mexico -9. (China N/A for this question.)

\*As noted above, the field dates of the survey were just after, during and prior to the US-led Coalition Airstrikes were undertaken against ISIL positions. As such, some countries were either just or soon to be involved in an armed conflict with another nation *over the next 12 Months*.

### ***Majority (59%) Agree that Given the Dangers in the World, their Government Needs to Spend More on their Country's Military...***

**Total agree (strongly/somewhat) 59%**– India 85%, Saudi Arabia 84%, China 82%, Poland 77%, Turkey 74%, Russia 71%, Romania 70%, United States 67%, South Africa 66%, Brazil 64%, South Korea 63%, Australia 62%, Great Britain 62%, Canada 60%, Sweden 58%, France 52%, Argentina 49%, Germany 49%, Mexico 44%, Japan 41%, Belgium 40%, Hungary 38%, Italy 28% and Spain 24%.

- **Total agree strongly 21%** – Saudi Arabia 44%, India 40%, Turkey 36%, Romania 30%, South Africa 28%, Sweden 28%, Poland 27%, Russia 27%, United States 25%, Brazil 25%, China 24%, Great Britain 22%, Argentina 20%, Australia 17%, Canada 17%, France 15%, Mexico 14%, Germany 12%, South Korea 10%, Hungary 10%, Japan 7%, Belgium 7%, Italy and Spain 6%.

### ***Two thirds (62%) expect in the next 25 years we could see another world conflict involving superpower similar to World Wars 1 and 2...***

**Total agree (strongly/somewhat) 62%**– United States 78%, Turkey 73%, South Africa 72%, Saudi Arabia 71%, India 71%, Australia 70%, Canada 67%, Mexico 64%, Poland



64%, France 64%, Spain 64%, Russia 62%, Brazil 62%, Belgium 61%, Romania 59%, Great Britain 59%, Italy 59%, Argentina 57%, South Korea 57%, Hungary 57%, China 57%, Sweden 51%, Germany 45% and Japan 40%.

- **Total agree strongly 22%** – United States 34%, South Africa 33%, Turkey 32%, India 30%, Canada 28%, Mexico 28%, Romania 28%, Saudi Arabia 27%, Argentina 25%, Australia 23%, France 21%, Brazil 21%, Belgium 21%, Great Britain 21%, Russia 20%, Poland 19%, Italy 19%, Sweden 19%, Spain 17%, Hungary 17%, China 11%, Germany 11%, South Korea 7% and Japan 6%.

*These are findings of the research conducted by global research company Ipsos for the Halifax International Security Forum. The research was conducted on the “G@61” wave between October 5<sup>th</sup> to 19<sup>th</sup>, 2014. The Global @dvisor data output is derived from a balanced online sample in 24 countries around the world via the Ipsos Online Panel system. For the results of the survey presented herein, an international sample of 17,581 respondents in 24 countries were interviewed: Argentina, Australia, Belgium, Brazil, Canada, China, France, Germany, Great Britain, Hungary, India, Italy, Japan, Mexico, Poland, Romania, Russia, Saudi Arabia, South Africa, South Korea, Spain, Sweden, Turkey and the United States. Not all questions were answered by Chinese respondents due to State rejected questions prior to administering the survey. Interviews were conducted among adults aged 18-64 in the US and Canada and aged 16-64 in all other countries. Approximately 1000+ individuals participated on a country by country basis via the Ipsos Online Panel with the exception of Argentina, Belgium, Hungary, India, Mexico, Poland, Romania, Russia, Saudi Arabia, South Africa, South Korea, Sweden and Turkey where each have a sample approximately 500+. The precision of Ipsos online polls are calculated using a credibility interval. In this case, a poll of 1,000 is accurate to +/- 3.5 percentage points and one of 500 is accurate to +/- 5.0 percentage points in their respective general populations. There are 15 countries that have been weighted to represent their actual adult population: Argentina, Australia, Belgium, Canada, France, Germany, Hungary, Italy, Japan, Poland, South Korea, Spain, Sweden, United Kingdom and the United States. The remaining nine country results are representative of adult Primary Consumers who are internet enabled and have a higher income and education than the average country norm.*

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