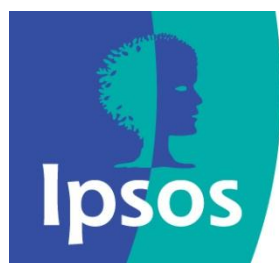


Canadians Split on Whether World should have Followed Through with Military Action Against Assad's Syrian Government

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Toronto, ON – While the Syrian Civil War began as early as 2011, the world began paying close attention in 2013 when, in June, the death toll surpassed 100,000 according to the United Nations. Millions of Syrians have been displaced, and a great deal of attention was paid to whether or not the government actually used chemical weapons on its own citizens. In response to this possibility, the international community threatened to intervene, but in the end did not. These events have prompted CTV News, Ipsos' media partner, to declare this to be the 5th largest news story of the year.

Canadians are split on whether the international community should have gone through with their threats of military action against Assad's Syrian government, according to a new Ipsos Reid poll conducted on behalf of CTV News. Half (48%) 'agree (12% strongly/36% somewhat) that 'the world should have followed through with military action', while the other half (52%) 'disagrees' (13% strongly/39% somewhat) that the international community should have intervened.

Those most likely to agree live in Atlantic Canada (57%), Alberta (54%), and Ontario (51%), while Canadians living in Saskatchewan and Manitoba (48%), British Columbia (46%) and Quebec (42%) are less likely to believe there should have been intervention.

Quebecers (58%) are most adamant in their disagreement, followed by Canadians living in BC (54%), Saskatchewan and Manitoba (52%), Ontario (49%), Alberta (46%) and Atlantic Canada (43%).

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These are some of the findings of an Ipsos Reid poll conducted between December 9th to 13th, 2013, on behalf of CTV News. For this survey, a sample of 2,535 Canadians from Ipsos' Canadian online panel was interviewed online. Weighting was then employed to balance demographics to ensure that the sample's composition reflects that of the adult population according to Census data and to provide results intended to approximate the sample universe. The precision of Ipsos online polls is measured using a credibility interval. In this case the poll is accurate to +/- 2.2 percentage points of the entire Canadian adult population. All sample surveys and polls may be subject to other sources of error, including, but not limited to coverage error, and measurement error.

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