

America Is the Only Country with a Favorable View of Israel

By Washington's Blog

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The U.S. Is the Only Country Which Supports Israel No Matter What It Does

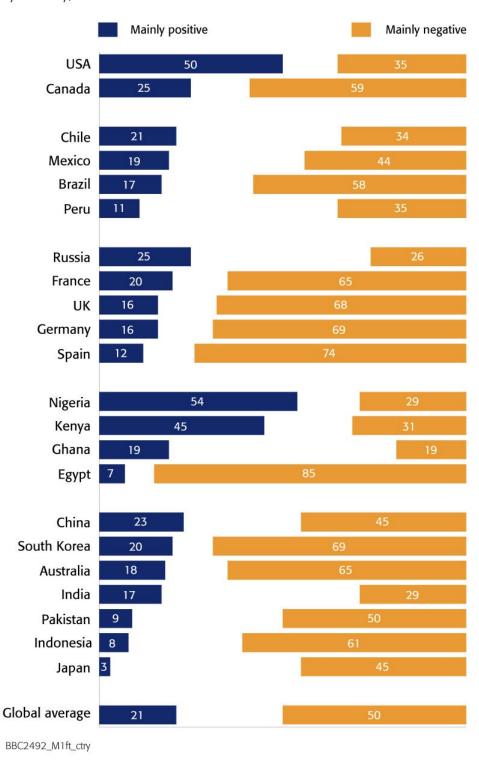
Americans – living in a huge country which has never really been invaded, and as the sole superpower – are famous for being out-of-touch with how the rest of the world thinks.

So my fellow Americans will probably be surprised to learn that the U.S. is more or less the *only* country in the world which has a favorable view of Israel.

Specifically, a <u>2012 BBC poll</u> found that the *U.S. and Nigeria* were the only countries of those polled in which the majority of people had favorable views of Israel:

Views of Israel's Influence

By Country, 2012



The white space in this chart represents "Depends," "Neither/neutral," and "DK/NA." Asked of half of sample

But Nigeria swung negative in the <u>2013 BBC poll</u>, leaving the U.S. *alone* of all countries polled:



Indeed, the 2013 poll <u>shows</u> that Israel is the *fourth least popular* country in the world, trailing only Iran, Pakistan and North Korea:

Iran is once again the most negatively viewed country, with negative ratings climbing four points to 59%. Most people also give negative ratings to Pakistan (56%, up five points), North Korea (55%, up three points) and Israel (52%, up one point).

Israel Has Violated United Nations Resolutions More than Any Country In the World

Another measure of world opinion on Israel is that the United Nations has condemned Israel's violence towards its neighbors <u>again and again</u>.

Haaretz noted in 2002:

Israel holds the record for ignoring United Nations Security Council resolutions, according to a study by San Francisco University political science professor Steven Zunes.

Israel leads the list. Since 1968, Israel has violated 32 resolutions that included condemnation or criticism of the governments' policies and actions.

Zunes specifically avoided counting resolutions that are vague or unclear so that governments could claim different interpretations to the meaning of the resolutions. Thus, the famous UN Security Council resolutions 242 and 338 are not included in his study. He also did not count resolutions that only included condemnations. Instead, he focused on those that included specific calls for changes in the subject governments' policies.

The resolutions Israel violated were either about its annexation of East Jerusalem or settlements in the territories. Israel also ignored UN Security Council resolutions that called for Israel to cease using harsh measures against the Palestinian population and to cease expelling Palestinians.

Pulitzer prize winning journalist Chris Hedges <u>points out</u> that Israel has broken nearly a hundred UN Security Council resolutions regarding Gaza alone.

Here is a brief sampling of **UN Security Council resolutions** against Israel:

- Resolution 106: The Palestine Question (March 29, 1955) 'condemns' Israel for Gaza raid
- Resolution 111: The Palestine Question (January 19, 1956) " ... 'condemns' Israel for raid on Syria that killed fifty-six people"
- Resolution 127: The Palestine Question (January 22, 1958) " ... 'recommends' Israel suspends its 'no-man's zone' in Jerusalem".
- Resolution 162: The Palestine Question (April 11, 1961) " ... 'urges' Israel to comply with UN decisions"
- Resolution 171: The Palestine Question (April 9, 1962) " ... determines flagrant violations' by Israel in its attack on Syria"

- Resolution 228: The Palestine Question (November 25, 1966) " ... 'censures' Israel for its attack on Samu in the West Bank, then under Jordanian control"
- Resolution 237: Six Day War (June 14, 1967) " ... 'urges' Israel to allow return of new 1967 Palestinian refugees". and called on Israel to ensure the safety and welfare of inhabitants of areas where fighting had taken place
- Resolution 248: (March 24, 1968) " ... 'condemns' Israel for its massive attack on Karameh in Jordan"
- Resolution 256: (August 16, 1968) " ... 'condemns' Israeli raids on Jordan as 'flagrant violation"
- Resolution 258: (September 18, 1968) ... expressed 'concern' with the welfare of the inhabitants of the <u>Israeli-occupied territories</u>, and requested a special representative to be sent to report on the implementation of Resolution 237, and that Israel cooperate
- Resolution 259: (September 27, 1968) " ... 'deplores' Israel's refusal to accept UN mission to probe occupation"
- Resolution 262: (December 31, 1968) " ... 'condemns' Israel for attack on Beirut airport"
- Resolution 265: (April 1, 1969) " ... 'condemns' Israel for air attacks on Salt"
- Resolution 270: (August 26, 1969) " ... 'condemns' Israel for air attacks on villages in southern Lebanon"
- Resolution 279: (May 12, 1970) "Demands the immediate withdrawal of all Israeli armed forces from Lebanese territory"
- Resolution 280: (May 19, 1970) " ... 'condemns' Israeli's attacks against Lebanon"
- Resolution 285: (September 5, 1970) " ... 'demands' immediate Israeli withdrawal from Lebanon"
- Resolution 298: (September 25, 1971) " ... 'deplores' Israel's changing of the status of Jerusalem"
- Resolution 316: (June 26, 1972) " ... 'condemns' Israel for repeated attacks on Lebanon"
- Resolution 317: (July 21, 1972) " ... 'deplores' Israel's refusal to release Arabs abducted in Lebanon"

- Resolution 332: (April 21, 1973) " ... 'condemns' Israel's repeated attacks against Lebanon"
- Resolution 337: (August 15, 1973) " ... 'condemns' Israel for violating Lebanon's sovereignty and territorial integrity and for the forcible diversion and seizure of a Lebanese airliner from Lebanon's air space"
- Resolution 347: (April 24, 1974)" ... 'condemns' Israeli attacks on Lebanon"
- Resolution 444: (January 19, 1979) " ... 'deplores' Israel's lack of cooperation with UN peacekeeping forces"
- Resolution 446 (March 22, 1979): 'determines' that <u>Israeli settlements</u> are a 'serious obstruction' to peace and calls on Israel to abide by the Fourth Geneva Convention"
- Resolution 450: (June 14, 1979) " ... 'calls' on Israel to stop attacking Lebanon".
- Resolution 452: (July 20, 1979) ... 'calls' on Israel to cease building settlements in occupied territories"
- Resolution 465: (March 1, 1980) " ... 'deplores' Israel's settlements and asks all member states not to assist Israel's settlements program"
- Resolution 467: (April 24, 1980) " ... 'strongly deplores' Israel's military intervention in Lebanon"
- Resolution 468: (May 8, 1980) " ... 'calls' on Israel to rescind illegal expulsions of two Palestinian mayors and a judge and to facilitate their return"
- Resolution 469: (May 20, 1980) " ... 'strongly deplores' Israel's failure to observe the council's order not to deport Palestinians"
- Resolution 471: (June 5, 1980) " ... 'expresses deep concern' at Israel's failure to abide by the Fourth Geneva Convention"
- Resolution 478 (August 20, 1980): 'censures (Israel) in the strongest terms' for its claim to <u>Jerusalem</u>in its 'Basic Law'
- Resolution 487: (June 19, 1981) " ... 'strongly condemns' Israel for its attack on Iraq's nuclear facility"
- Resolution 497 (December 17, 1981), decides that Israel's annexation of Syria's Golan Heights is 'null and void' and demands that Israel rescinds its decision forthwith
- Resolution 501: (February 25, 1982) " ... 'calls' on Israel to stop attacks against

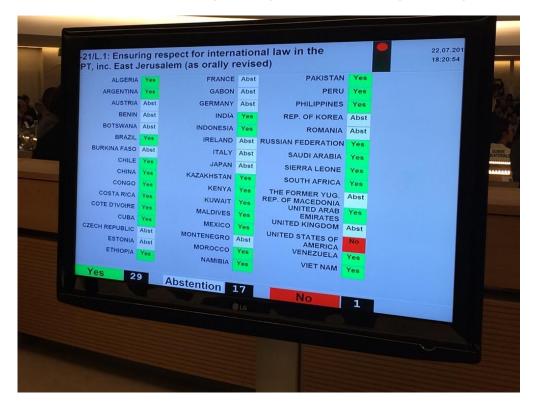
Lebanon and withdraw its troops".

- Resolution 515: (July 29, 1982) " ... 'demands' that Israel lift its siege of Beirut and allow food supplies to be brought in"
- Resolution 516 (August 1, 1982) demanded an immediate cessation of military activities in Lebanon, noting violations of the cease-fire in Beirut
- Resolution 517: (August 4, 1982) " ... 'censures' Israel for failing to obey UN resolutions and demands that Israel withdraw its forces from Lebanon".
- Resolution 520: (September 17, 1982) " ... 'condemns' Israel's attack into West Beirut".
- Resolution 573: (October 4, 1985) " ... 'condemns' Israel 'vigorously' for bombing Tunisia in attack on PLO headquarters
- Resolution 592: (December 8, 1986) " ... 'strongly deplores' the killing of Palestinian students at Birzeit University by Israeli troops"
- Resolution 605: (December 22, 1987) " ... 'strongly deplores' Israel's policies and practices denying the human rights of Palestinians
- Resolution 607: (January 5, 1988) " ... 'calls' on Israel not to deport Palestinians and strongly requests it to abide by the Fourth Geneva Convention
- Resolution 608: (January 14, 1988) " ... 'deeply regrets' that Israel has defied the United Nations and deported Palestinian civilians"
- Resolution 611: (April 25, 1988) "... condemned Israel's assassination of Khalil al-Wazir as a 'flagrant violation of the Charter
- Resolution 636: (July 16, 989) " ... 'deeply regrets' Israeli deportation of Palestinian civilians
- Resolution 641 (August 30, 1989): " ... 'deplores' Israel's continuing deportation of Palestinians
- Resolution 672 (October 12, 1990): " ... 'condemns' Israel for "violence against Palestinians" at the Haram al-Sharif/Temple Mount
- Resolution 673 (October 24, 1990): " ... 'deplores' Israel's refusal to cooperate with the United Nations
- Resolution 681 (December 20, 1990): " ... 'deplores' Israel's resumption of the deportation of Palestinians
- Resolution 694 (May 24, 1991): " ... 'deplores' Israel's deportation of Palestinians

and calls on it to ensure their safe and immediate return

- Resolution 726 (January 6. 1992): " ... 'strongly condemns' Israel's deportation of Palestinians
- Resolution 799 (December 18, 1992): ". . . 'strongly condemns' Israel's deportation of 413 Palestinians and calls for their immediate return
- Resolution 904 (March 18, 1994): Cave of the Patriarchs massacre
- Resolution 1322 (October 7, 2000) deplored <u>Ariel Sharon</u>'s visit to the <u>Temple</u>
 Mount and the violence that followed
- Resolution 1435 (September 24, 2002) demanded an end to Israeli measures in and aroundRamallah, and an Israeli withdrawal to positions held before September 2000
- Resolution 1544 (May 19, 2004) "…'calls on' Israel to respect its obligations under international humanitarian law, and insists, in particular, on its obligation not to undertake demolition of homes contrary to that law"
- Resolution 1860 (January 8, 2009) "...'calls for' an immediate, durable and fully respected ceasefire, leading to the full withdrawal of Israeli forces from Gaza; 'calls for' the unimpeded provision and distribution throughout Gaza of humanitarian assistance, including of food, fuel and medical treatment"

Of course, America is the only country which consistently votes against such resolutions:



Older, White American Males Are Virtually the Only People In the World Who Unconditionally Support Israel

Even with the United States, there are only certain groups which support Israel.

A <u>new poll</u> by Pew this month shows that it is mainly Americans 50 years or older, males, conservatives and evangelicals who support Israel:



Indeed, much of the unquestioning support for Israel – no matter what it does – comes from Americans who <u>confuse Zionism with Judaism</u>, and evangelicals who think that the <u>Bible has</u> preordained an Apocalypse started by war between Israel and Arab nations.

Dr. Timothy Webber – an evangelical Christian who has served as a teacher of church history and the history of American religion at Denver Seminary and Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville, Vice-President at Northern Baptist Theological Seminary in Lombard, IL, and President of Memphis Theological Seminary in Tennessee – notes:

In a recent Time/CNN poll, more than one-third of Americans said that since the terrorist attacks of 9/11, they have been thinking more about how current events might be leading to the end of the world.

While only 36 percent of all Americans believe that the Bible is God's Word and should be taken literally, 59 percent say they believe that events predicted in the Book of Revelation will come to pass. Almost one out of four Americans believes that 9/11 was predicted in the Bible, and nearly one in five believes that he or she will live long enough to see the end of the world. Even more significant for this study, over one-third of those Americans who support Israel report that they do so because they believe the Bible teaches that the Jews must possess their own country in the Holy Land before Jesus can return.

Millions of Americans believe that the Bible predicts the future and that we are living in the last days. Their beliefs are rooted in dispensationalism, a particular way of understanding the Bible's prophetic passages, especially those in Daniel and Ezekiel in the Old Testament and the Book of Revelation in the New Testament. They make up about one-third of America's 40 or 50 million evangelical Christians and believe that the nation of Israel will play a central role in the unfolding of end-times events. In the last part of the 20th century, dispensationalist evangelicals become Israel's best friends-an alliance that has made a serious geopolitical difference.

Starting in the 1970s, dispensationalists broke into the popular culture with runaway best-sellers, and a well-networked political campaign to promote and protect the interests of Israel. Since the mid-1990s, tens of millions of people who have never seen a prophetic chart or listened to a sermon on the second coming have read one or more novels in the Left Behind series, which has become the most effective disseminator of dispensationalist ideas ever.

During the early 1980s the Israeli Ministry of Tourism recruited evangelical religious leaders for free "familiarization" tours. In time, hundreds of evangelical pastors got free trips to the Holy Land. The purpose of such promotional tours was to enable people of even limited influence to experience

Israel for themselves and be shown how they might bring their own tour group to Israel. The Ministry of Tourism was interested in more than tourist dollars: here was a way of building a solid corps of non-Jewish supporters for Israel in the United States by bringing large numbers of evangelicals to hear and see Israel's story for themselves. The strategy caught on.

Shortly after the Six-Day War, elements within the Israeli government saw the potential power of the evangelical subculture and began to mobilize it as a base of support that could influence American foreign policy. The Israeli government sent Yona Malachy of its Department of Religious Affairs to the United States to study American fundamentalismand its potential as an ally of Israel. Malachy was warmly received by fundamentalists and was able to influence some of them to issue strong pro-Israeli manifestos. By the mid-1980s, there was a discernible shift in the Israeli political strategy. The American Israel Public Affairs Committee (AIPAC), the Jewish state's major lobbying group in Washington, D.C., started re-aligning itself with the American political right-wing, including Christian conservatives. Israel's timing was perfect. It began working seriously with American dispensationalists at the precise moment that American fundamentalists and evangelicals were discovering their political voice.

Probably the largest pro-Israel organization of its kind is the National Unity Coalition for Israel, which was founded by a Jewish woman who learned how to get dispensationalist support. NUCl opposes "the establishment of a Palestinian state within the borders of Israel."

In their commitment to keep Israel strong and moving in directions prophesied by the Bible, dispensationalists are supporting some of the most dangerous elements in Israeli society. They do so because such political and religious elements seem to conform to dispensationalist beliefs about what is coming next for Israel. By lending their support-both financial and spiritual-to such groups, dispensationalists are helping the future they envision come to pass.

Dispensationalists believe that the Temple is coming too; and their convictions have led them to support the aims and actions of what most Israelis believe are the most dangerous right-wing elements in their society, people whose views make any compromise necessary for lasting peace impossible. Such sentiments do not matter to the believers in Bible prophecy, for whom the outcome of the quarrelsome issue of the Temple Mount has already been determined by God.

Since the end of the Six-Day War, then, dispensationalists have increasingly moved from observers to participant-observers. They have acted consistently with their convictions about the coming Last Days in ways that make their prophecies appear to be self-fulfilling.

As Paul Boyer has pointed out, dispensationalism has effectively conditioned millions of Americans to be somewhat passive about the future and provided them with lenses through which to understand world events. Thanks to the sometimes changing perspectives of their Bible teachers, dispensationalists

are certain that trouble in the Middle East is inevitable, that nations will war against nations, and that the time is coming when millions of people will die as a result of nuclear war, the persecution of Antichrist, or as a result of divine judgment. Striving for peace in the Middle East is a hopeless pursuit with no chance of success.

For the dispensational community, the future is determined. The Bible's prophecies are being fulfilled with amazing accuracy and rapidity. They do not believe that the Road Map will-or should-succeed. According to the prophetic texts, partitioning is not in Israel's future, even if the creation of a Palestinian state is the best chance for peace in the region. Peace is nowhere prophesied for the Middle East, until Jesus comes and brings it himself. The worse thing that the United States, the European Union, Russia, and the United Nations can do is force Israel to give up land for a peace that will never materialize this side of the second coming. ANYONE WHO PUSHES FOR PEACE in such a manner IS IGNORING OR DEFYING GOD'S PLAN for the end of the age.

It seems clear that dispensationalism is on a roll, that its followers feel they are riding the wave of history into the shore of God's final plan. Why should they climb back into the stands when being on the field of play is so much more fun and apparently so beneficial to the game's outcome? As [one dispensationalist group's] advertisement read, "Don't just read about prophecy when you can be part of it."

In other words, Americans don't necessarily support Israel in order to support or protect the Jewish people.

Many Americans support Israel because they believe that it is necessary to help Israel secure the *Holy Land* promised in the Bible – apparently by <u>any means necessary</u> – in order to bring the *Second Coming*.

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